



EYEWITNESS TRAVEL

2018

London



The **guides that show you** what others only tell you



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London







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The Elizabeth Tower, commonly known as Big Ben, and the Houses of Parliament (see p78)

Introducing London

Great Days
in London **10**

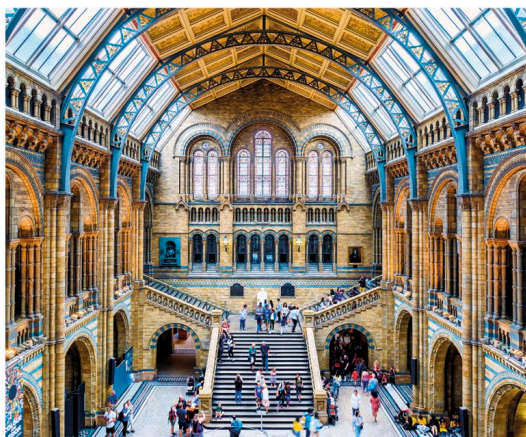
Putting London
on the Map **14**

The History of
London **18**

London at a Glance **40**

London Through
the Year **60**

A River View
of London **64**



The beautiful Hintze Hall at the Natural History Museum (see pp206–207)

The information in this DK Eyewitness Travel Guide is checked regularly.

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Contents

London Area by Area

Whitehall and
Westminster **72**

Piccadilly, Mayfair
and St James's **90**

Soho and
Trafalgar Square **102**

Covent Garden and
the Strand **114**

Bloomsbury and
Fitzrovia **124**

Holborn and the
Inns of Court **136**

The City **146**

Smithfield and
Spitalfields **164**

Southwark and
Bankside **176**

South Bank **188**

Chelsea **196**

South Kensington and
Knightsbridge **202**

Kensington and
Holland Park **218**

Regent's Park and
Marylebone **224**

Hampstead and
Highgate **232**

Greenwich and
Blackheath **240**

Further Afield **248**

Six Guided Walks **268**

Travellers' Needs

Where to Stay **284**

Where to Eat
and Drink **292**

Shops and Markets **316**

Entertainment **338**

Children's London **352**



A Roman statue in the Great Court,
the British Museum (see pp128–31)

Survival Guide

Practical
Information **358**

Getting to
London **368**

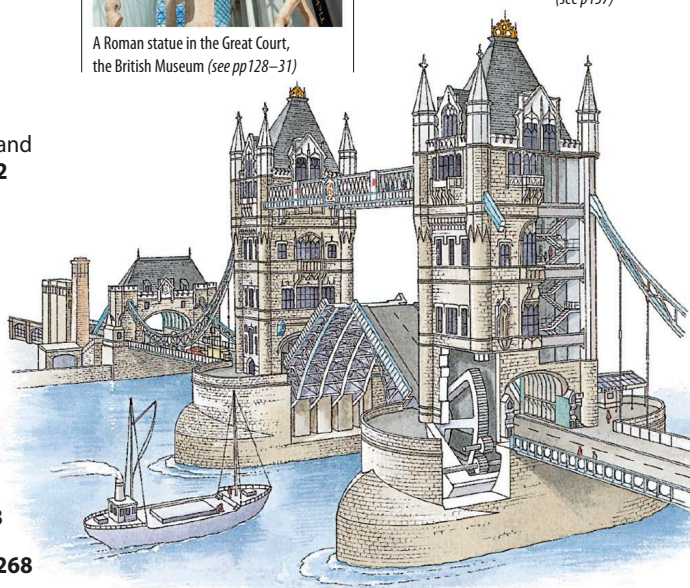
Getting Around
London **374**

London
Street Finder **382**

General Index **420**

Acknowledgments **438**

Tower Bridge
(see p157)



HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

This Eyewitness Travel Guide helps you get the most from your stay in London with the minimum of practical difficulty. The opening section, *Introducing London*, locates the city geographically, sets modern London in its historical context and describes the events of the London year. *London at a Glance* is an overview of the city's highlights. *London Area by Area* takes you round the city's areas of interest. It describes all the main sights

with maps, photographs and detailed illustrations. In addition, six planned walking routes take you to parts of London you might otherwise miss.

Well-researched tips on where to stay, eat, shop, and on entertainment are in *Travellers' Needs*. *Children's London* lists highlights for young visitors, and *Survival Guide* tells you how to do anything from posting a letter to using the Underground.

London Area by Area

The city has been divided into 16 sightseeing areas, each with its own section in the guide. Each section begins with a short introduction summing up the character and history of this part

of the city. The key sights of interest to visitors are numbered and clearly located on an *Area Map*; these sights are also numbered on the pages that follow to help navigation around

the section. Each section has a large-scale *Street-by-Street Map* that focuses on an especially interesting part of the area, usually one in which a cluster of attractions can be found.



Colour-coded tabs help you find the section you want.

A **locator map** shows you where you are in relation to surrounding areas. The extent of the *Area Map* is highlighted.

Numbered circles pinpoint all the listed sights on the area map. St Margaret's Church, for example, is 4.

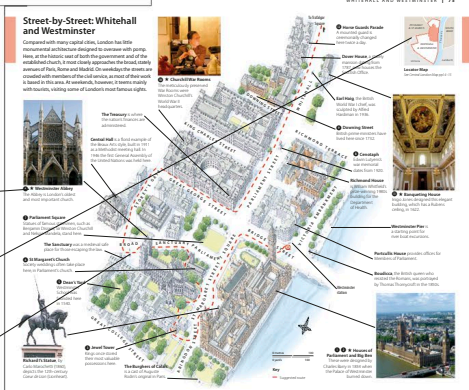
Recommended restaurants in the area are listed and plotted on the map.

1 Area Map
For easy reference, the sights in each area are numbered and located on an *Area Map*. To help the visitor, the map also shows Underground and mainline train stations.

Stars indicate the sights that no visitor should miss.

A **locator map** shows you where you are in relation to surrounding areas. The area of the *Street-by-Street Map* is shown in red.

A **suggested route** for a walk takes in the most attractive and interesting streets in the area.



2 Street-by-Street Map
This gives a bird's-eye view of the heart of each sightseeing area. The numbering of the sights ties in with the *Area Map* and the fuller descriptions on the pages that follow.



INTRODUCING LONDON

Great Days in London	10-13
Putting London on the Map	14-17
The History of London	18-39
London at a Glance	40-59
London Through the Year	60-63
A River View of London	64-69



GREAT DAYS IN LONDON

For things to see and do, visitors to London are spoiled for choice. Whether you're here for several days, or after a small taste of this great city, you'll want to make the most of your time. Over the following pages, you'll find itineraries for some of the best

attractions London has to offer, arranged first by theme and then by length of stay. Price guides on pages 10–11 include travel on public transport and food plus admission charges for two adults; family prices are for two adults and two children.



Café at the National Portrait Gallery with a view of Trafalgar Square

History and Culture

Two adults

allow at least £200 (less with a picnic lunch)

- **Art at the National Gallery**
- **Houses of Parliament**
- **Buckingham Palace**

Morning

Begin the day in **Trafalgar Square** (see p106) at 10am, when the **National Gallery** (see pp108–11) opens. Allow yourself an hour and a half here. The gallery is free, but visitors are encouraged to make a donation. Afterwards, go for a coffee at the Portrait Restaurant on the top floor of the neighbouring **National Portrait Gallery** (see p106), which has a great view over Trafalgar Square and Nelson's Column. Set off down Whitehall to Parliament Square, a 15-minute walk that may be extended by the passing distractions of Horse Guard's Parade, **Banqueting House** (see p84) and **Downing Street** (see p79). See the **Houses of**

Parliament (see pp76–7) before visiting the next highlight, the magnificent **Westminster Abbey** (see pp80–83). If the sun is shining, **St James's Park** (see p96), one of London's most pleasant green spaces, is ideal for a picnic lunch. If not, try Inn the Park (book ahead; 020 7451 9999) by the park's lake.

Afternoon

On the far side of St James's Park is **Buckingham Palace** (see pp98–9). During the summer months you can visit the State Rooms, while all year the Queen's Gallery has changing exhibitions. For tea, head up past St James's Palace onto Piccadilly, where there are several cafés and patisseries, such as Richoux at No. 172. Opposite, the **Royal Academy** (see p94) hosts some of the city's biggest art exhibitions, including the annual summer exhibition. For the best evening entertainment, get tickets for a West End play or show. These should be booked in advance (see p339), although last-minute tickets are sometimes on sale at the theatre box offices.

Shopping in Style

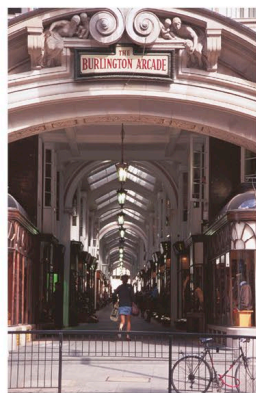
Two adults

allow at least £55 (plus shopping money)

- **Historic shops of St James's**
- **Old Bond Street for style**
- **Browsing trendy Covent Garden and the Piazza**

Morning

Start in Piccadilly and **St James's Street** (see pp92–3), home of suppliers to royalty and historic fashion names: John Lobb the bootmaker is at No. 9 and Lock the hatter at 6. Turn right into Jermyn Street for high-class men's tailors such as Turnbull & Asser and New & Lingwood, outfitters to Eton College. Floris the perfumer at 89 was founded in 1730 and the cheese shop Paxton & Whitfield at 93 has been here since 1740. Walk through Piccadilly Arcade to **Fortnum & Mason** (see p317), where you can treat yourself to an indulgent sundae at the Parlour before stocking up on



Burlington Arcade, a historic shopping mall off Piccadilly



Greenwich, a UNESCO World Heritage site

English classics such as fine teas and preserves. Walk through **Burlington Arcade** (see p94) for window-shopping of the highest calibre, before heading up **Old** and **New Bond** streets (see p319), the smartest shopping addresses in town. Try South Molton Street for fashion and Oxford Street for **Selfridges** department store (see p317). The café at the **Wallace Collection** (see p230), just behind, is a sophisticated lunch setting.

Afternoon

Head to **Covent Garden** (see pp116–17) and browse the Piazza's craft stalls. Mainstream shops line the square and nearby Floral Street is renowned for fashion. The streets that radiate from **Seven Dials** (see p120) are home to one-off boutiques, street style and intriguing emporiums.

A Day on the River

Two adults

allow at least £180

- Take the boat to Greenwich
- Explore the *Cutty Sark*
- View the Thames from Tower Bridge

Morning

Take the half-hour boat trip from the Embankment or London Eye piers to **Greenwich** (see pp242–7), and enjoy excellent views of St Paul's, the Tower and the City along the way. There are fine views too from Greenwich's Royal Observatory. Explore the

immaculately restored *Cutty Sark*, located next to the river, and pick up street food for lunch from **Greenwich Market** (see p336).

Afternoon

On the return boat trip, stop at Tower Millennium pier for **Tower Bridge** (see p157), where a glass-floored walkway gives a unique river view. Next, walk along the South Bank where you might catch a free live show at the Scoop amphitheatre by **City Hall** (see p187). The old warehouses of Butler's Wharf, east of the bridge, house good restaurants.

A Family Fun Day

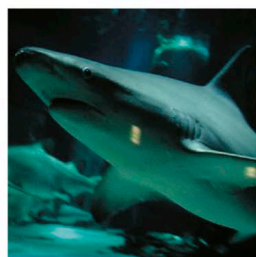
Family of four

allow at least £270

- Take the kids to the Tower
- Lunch at St Katharine Docks
- Ride the London Eye
- Explore Chinatown

Morning

Head to the **Tower of London** (see pp158–61), London's top visitor attraction and an established family favourite. Book tickets to avoid the queue. The fascinating castle and Crown Jewels will take at least a couple of hours to explore. For lunch, head across the road to **St Katharine Docks** (see p162) where, alongside the various yachts and pleasure cruisers, there are several good places to eat.



Predators at the London Aquarium

Afternoon

A walk along the south bank of the Thames is full of things to see – like the replica **Golden Hind II** (see p179) – and free entertainment. In summer, the area around the **Royal Festival Hall** (see p192) has fountains, sand pits and lots of events suitable for children. Next stop, the **London Eye** is a thrilling trip above the city (see p193; advance online bookings can be made at www.londoneye.com).

Vertigo sufferers need not feel left out – there is plenty of entertainment at and below ground level to choose from, especially in County Hall where **Sea Life London Aquarium** is based (see p192). This leisure complex is home to the Sea Life London Aquarium (great for younger kids) and the London Dungeon (for teenagers). Afterwards, head to **Chinatown** (see p112), situated in and around Gerrard Street, which has many superb restaurants, colourful shops and a vibrant streetlife. Go for an early Chinese supper of *dim sum* (small dishes).



Admiring the view from the London Eye, South Bank

2 Days in London

- Enjoy a panoramic spin on the London Eye
- Admire Wren's masterpiece, St Paul's Cathedral
- Take a Beefeater tour of the Tower of London

Day 1

Morning Inspect monuments to England's kings and queens on a self-guided tour of **Westminster Abbey** (see pp80–83). Don't miss the intricate Lady Chapel and peaceful cloisters. Next, wander through **Parliament Square** (see p78) into idyllic **St James's Park** (see p96), with its pelicans and black swans, reaching **Buckingham Palace** (see pp98–9) in time for the morning Changing the Guard ceremony. In autumn or winter head to **Horse Guards Parade** (see p84) instead. Then walk through stately **Trafalgar Square** (see p106) into the West End. Buy theatre tickets for the evening at discounted prices from the official cut-price booth on **Leicester Square** (see p107).

Afternoon Head to **Chinatown** (see p112) for *dim sum*, then spend an hour or two admiring works by Van Eyck, Van Gogh and Constable at the **National Gallery** (see pp108–11). If there's time before the show, head to Covent Garden's **Piazza and Central Market** (see p118) to watch the street performers.

Day 2

Morning The **Tower of London** (see pp158–61) is a must-see. Two hours is enough time to join an entertaining Beefeater tour and inspect murderous-looking Tudor weaponry in the White Tower. Then head to the **Monument** (see p156), Sir Christopher Wren's splendid 17th-century column built to commemorate the Great Fire of London. Climb its spiral staircase for a spectacular view that takes in landmarks old and new. Next, walk to Wren's glorious masterpiece, **St Paul's Cathedral** (see pp152–5). Highlights include the Whispering Gallery, the spectacular dome and the crypt.



Naval gunship HMS *Belfast* moored in front of Tower Bridge

Afternoon Cross the Millennium Bridge to **Bankside**, taking in views of **Tower Bridge** (see p157). Grab lunch from one of the artisan food stalls or cafés at **Borough Market** (see p180), then stroll to **Shakespeare's Globe** (see p181) and its fascinating museum (tours of the auditorium are available on days when there's no performance). Next door is **Tate Modern** (see pp182–5), housing paintings and art installations on a magnificent scale. End the day with a ride on the **London Eye** (see p193), timing it, if you're lucky, as the sun sets over the city.

3 Days in London

- Uncover England's history at Westminster Abbey and the Houses of Parliament
- View contemporary art at Tate Modern
- Meet the old masters at the National Gallery

Day 1

Morning Visit the **Tower of London** (see pp158–61): explore the armoury, infiltrate the torture chambers and admire the Crown Jewels. Afterwards, have a drink by the colourful quayside at **St Katharine Docks** (see p162), then cross **Tower Bridge** (see p157) to Shad Thames: its scrubbed-up dockside warehouses are now pricey apartments. Walk along the river to one of London's oldest markets, **Borough** (see p335), where you're spoiled for choice for lunchtime treats (not Sunday).

Afternoon A 5-minute walk away is one of London's newest

but most recognizable sights, the **Shard** (see p186). Speed up 72 floors to the very top, where the trains and boats far below look like toys. Walk along the riverside and stop off to look around **HMS Belfast** (see p187), now a floating naval museum, before detouring into **Southwark** (see pp178–9) for one of London's most macabre attractions: the **Old Operating Theatre** (see p180). Located in St Thomas's Church, the surgery dates from before the use of anaesthetics.

Day 2

Morning Get to **Westminster Abbey** (see pp80–83) early to explore its royal memorials. Nearby rise the Neo-Gothic **Houses of Parliament** (see pp76–7) and **Big Ben** (see p78). Cross the river and head for the **Southbank Centre** (see pp190–91), which includes the **Hayward Gallery** (see p192) and the **Royal Festival Hall** (see p192). Nearby is the **London Eye** (see p193) and the **Sea Life London Aquarium** (see p192).



A performance in progress at Shakespeare's Globe in Southwark

Afternoon Wander the galleries of **Tate Modern** (see pp182–5). Then walk over the Millennium Bridge for views back of **Shakespeare's Globe** (see p181) and **Tower Bridge** (see p157), reaching **St Paul's Cathedral** (see pp152–5) in time for evensong.

Day 3

Morning Start the day in literary **Bloomsbury** (see pp126–7), and give yourself a couple of hours at the magnificent **British Museum** (see pp128–31) – either join a highlights tour or select a few galleries to visit, such as the Greek or Egyptian collections.

Afternoon Head to **Leicester Square** (see p107) for cheap theatre tickets, then walk to **Trafalgar Square** (see p106) and spend a few hours at the **National Gallery** (see pp108–11) and the adjacent **National Portrait Gallery** (see pp106–7) for world-famous art. Stroll in **St James's Park** (see p97) for a peek at **Buckingham Palace** (see pp98–9) before the theatre.

5 Days in London

- Visit Buckingham Palace, the Queen's official home
- Discover ancient treasures at the British Museum
- Explore South Kensington's world-class museums

Day 1

Morning Begin at **Tower Bridge** (see p157), from where you can see one of Britain's great battleships, **HMS Belfast** (see p187). Next, spend two hours at the **Tower of London** (see pp158–61) and have lunch at **St Katharine Docks** (see p162).

Afternoon Allow time to see two of Sir Christopher Wren's masterworks, **St Paul's Cathedral** (see pp152–5) and the **Monument** (see p156), before heading to **Southwark** (see pp178–9) and the **Shard** (see p186), then viewing contemporary art at **Tate Modern** (see pp182–5). End the day with a play (*Apr–Oct*) at **Shakespeare's Globe** (see p181).

Day 2

Morning Start the day with some culture at the **National Gallery** (see pp108–11), and the **National Portrait Gallery** (see pp106–7), with its fascinating collection of paintings and photographs. Then soak up the ambience of Soho with a wander through **Berwick Street Market** (see p112) and **Soho Square** (see p112). Head to **Chinatown** for a spot of lunch (see p112).

Afternoon Walk to **Covent Garden** (see pp116–17) and take a backstage tour of the **Royal Opera House** (see p119), then explore London's social history at the **London Transport Museum** (see p118). Afterwards, peruse the hip shops of **Neal Street** (see p119).

Day 3

Morning Start the day at the **British Museum** (see pp128–31), a treasure trove charting two million years of human civilization. Don't miss the Ancient Egyptian mummies and the Rosetta Stone.

Afternoon Head to **Trafalgar Square** (see p106), then stroll along **The Mall** (see p97) to **Buckingham Palace** (see pp98–9) to visit the State Rooms (*Jul–Sep*). End the day by relaxing in **St James's Park** (see p96).

Day 4

Morning Start with a spin on the **London Eye** (see p193), then head to **Westminster Abbey** (see pp80–83). This incredible building has witnessed



Assembled crowds watch a daredevil street performer in Covent Garden's Piazza



Al fresco eating and drinking at picturesque Gabriel's Wharf

coronations and royal weddings. If it's summer, book a tour of the **Houses of Parliament** (see pp76–7), or at other times queue to see the Lords and Commons in action. As you leave, look up at **Big Ben** (see p78).

Afternoon Make your way to the **Imperial War Museum** (see pp194–5), with its poignant exhibition on the Holocaust. For something lighter, walk through the vibrant **Southbank Centre** (see pp190–91) to the boutiques and cafés of **Gabriel's Wharf** (see p195).

Day 5

Morning South Kensington's three world-class museums are worth the best part of a day, even if you are selective. Arrive early (they all open at 10am) as they can be very popular. Start with either the **Science Museum** (see pp210–11), with its hands-on experiments and aircraft simulators, or the **Natural History Museum** (see pp206–7) for animatronic dinosaurs and touch-screen creepy-crawlies.

Afternoon The tearooms of the **Victoria and Albert Museum** (see pp214–17) are the most beautifully decorated in London, so have a reviving lunch there before discovering one of the world's finest collections of decorative art, with extraordinary pieces from across the globe. Finish the day by walking up to **Kensington Gardens** (see p212) to take a look at the Albert Memorial, the Palace and the Peter Pan statue.

Putting London on the Map

London, the capital of the United Kingdom, is a city of over eight million people covering 1,606 sq km (620 sq miles) of southeast England. It is built on the River Thames and is at the centre of the UK's road and rail networks. From London visitors can easily reach the UK's other main tourist attractions.





Central London

Most of the sights described in this book lie within 14 areas of central London, plus two outlying districts of Hampstead and Greenwich. Each area has its own chapter. If time is short, you may decide to restrict yourself to the five areas that contain most of London's famous sights: Whitehall and Westminster, The City, Bloomsbury and Fitzrovia, Soho and Trafalgar Square, and South Kensington.



National Gallery

This gallery has over 2,300 paintings, and the collection is particularly strong on Dutch, early Renaissance Italian and 17th-century Spanish painting (see pp108–11).



Natural History Museum

Life on Earth and the Earth itself are vividly explored at the museum, through a combination of interactive techniques and traditional displays (see pp206–7).



Tower of London

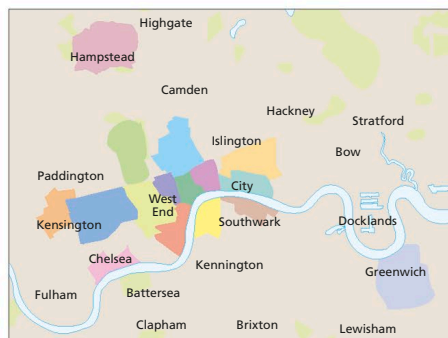
For much of its 900-year history the Tower was an object of fear. Its bloody past and the Crown Jewels make it a major attraction (see pp158–61).





Buckingham Palace

The office and home of the monarchy, the palace is also used for state occasions. The State Rooms are open to the public in the summer (see pp98–9).



Museum of London

This museum, on the edge of the Barbican complex in the City, provides a lively account of London life from prehistoric times to the present day (see pp170–71).



Houses of Parliament

The Palace of Westminster has been the seat of the two Houses of Parliament, called the Lords and the Commons, since 1512 (see pp76–7).





THE HISTORY OF LONDON

In 55 BC, Julius Caesar's Roman army invaded England, landing in Kent and marching northwest until it reached the broad River Thames at what is now Southwark. There were a few tribesmen living on the opposite bank but no major settlement. However, by the time of the second Roman invasion 88 years later, a small port and mercantile community had been established here. The Romans bridged the river and built their administrative headquarters on the north bank, calling it Londinium – a version of its old Celtic name.

London as Capital

London was soon the largest city in England and, by the time of the Norman Conquest in 1066, it was the obvious choice for national capital.

Settlement slowly spread beyond the original walled city, which was virtually wiped out by the Great Fire of 1666. The post-fire rebuilding formed the basis of the area we know today as the City of London but, by the 18th century, London

had enveloped the settlements around it. These included the royal City of Westminster, which had long been London's religious and political centre. The explosive growth of commerce and industry during the 18th and 19th centuries made London the biggest and wealthiest city in the world, creating a prosperous middle class who built the fine houses that still grace parts of the capital. The prospect of riches also lured millions of the dispossessed from the countryside and from abroad. They crowded into insanitary dwellings, many just east of the City, where docks provided employment.

By the end of the 19th century, 4.5 million people lived in inner London and another 4 million in its immediate vicinity. Bombing during World War II devastated many of the central areas and led to substantial rebuilding in the second half of the 20th century, when the docks and other Victorian industries disappeared.

The following pages illustrate London's history by giving snapshots of significant periods in its evolution.

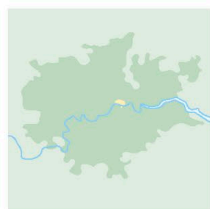


A map of 1580 depicting the City of London and, near the lower left corner, the City of Westminster

◀ A 15th-century manuscript showing the Tower of London with London Bridge in the background

Roman London

When the Romans invaded Britain in the 1st century AD, they already controlled vast areas of the Mediterranean, but fierce opposition from local tribes (such as Queen Boudicca's Iceni) made Britain difficult to control. The Romans persevered, however, and had consolidated their power by the end of the century. Londinium, with its port, developed into a capital city; by the 3rd century, there were some 50,000 people living here. But, as the Roman Empire crumbled in the 5th century, the garrison pulled out, leaving the city to the Saxons.



Extent of the City

AD 125 Today

Public Baths

Bathing was an important part of Roman life. This pocket-sized personal hygiene kit (including a nail pick) and bronze pouring dish date from the 1st century.



Roman fort

Site of present-day St Paul's

Site of present-day Museum of London



Temple of Mithras

Mithras protected the good from evil. This 2nd-century head was part of a statue in his temple.

Forum

Basilica



Londinium

Roman London was an important centre on the site of the present-day City (see pp146–63). On the Thames, it was in a good position to trade with the rest of the Empire.

Forum and Basilica

About 200 m (600 ft) from London Bridge were the forum (the chief market and meeting place) and the basilica (the town hall and court of justice).

55 BC Julius Caesar invades Britain



AD 61 Boudicca attacks

200 City wall built

410 Roman troops begin to leave

100

200

300

400

500

AD 43 Claudius establishes Roman London and builds the first bridge

London Wall

The tombstone of a Roman legionnaire was built into the city wall. The writing tablets in his left hand suggest he did clerical work.



Amphitheatre

Entertainment was brutal. Gladiators, dressed like this figurine, fighting to the death, was a popular spectacle.



Roman basilica and forum

Where to See Roman London

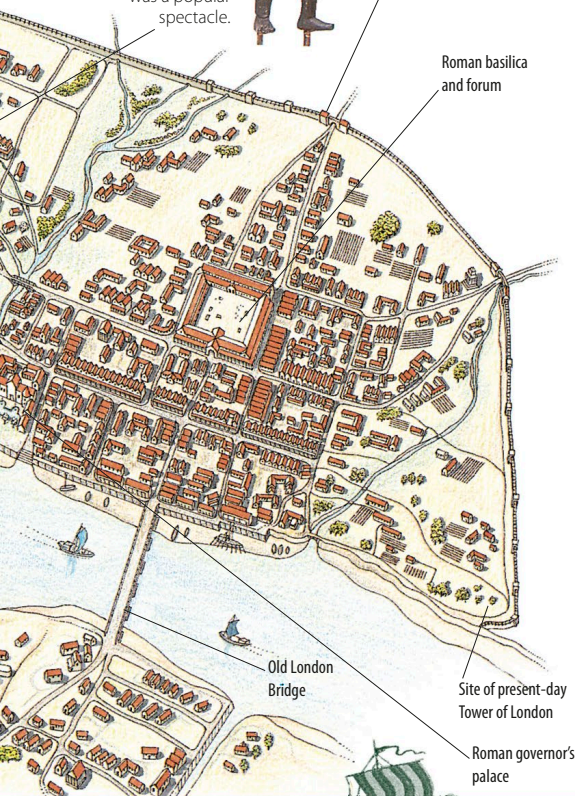
Most traces of the Roman occupation are in the City (see pp146–63) and Southwark (see pp176–87). The Museum of London (see pp170–71) and the British Museum (see pp128–31) have extensive collections of Roman finds. There's a Roman pavement in the crypt of All Hallows by the Tower (see p157); there are also parts of the Roman wall around the City – one of the largest is near the Tower of London. In the 1980s an amphitheatre was found below the Guildhall (see p163).



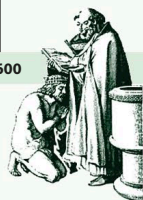
This section of the Roman wall, built in the 3rd century to defend the city, can be seen from the Museum of London.



This well-preserved Roman mosaic, a 2nd-century pavement, was found in 1869 in the City. It is now in the Museum of London.



604 King Ethelbert builds first St Paul's



600



834 First Viking raids

700

800



871 Alfred the Great becomes king of Wessex

1014 Norse invader Olaf pulls down London Bridge to take the city

1000

Medieval London

The historic division between London's centres of commerce (the City) and government (Westminster) started in the mid-11th century when Edward the Confessor established his court and sited his abbey (see pp80–83) at Westminster. Meanwhile, in the City, tradesmen set up their own institutions and guilds, and London appointed its first mayor. Disease was rife and the population never rose much above its Roman peak of 50,000. The Black Death (1348) reduced the population by half.



Extent of the City

1200

Today



St Thomas à Becket

As Archbishop of Canterbury he was murdered in 1170, at the prompting of Henry II, with whom he was quarrelling. Thomas was made a saint and pilgrims visited his Canterbury shrine.

London Bridge

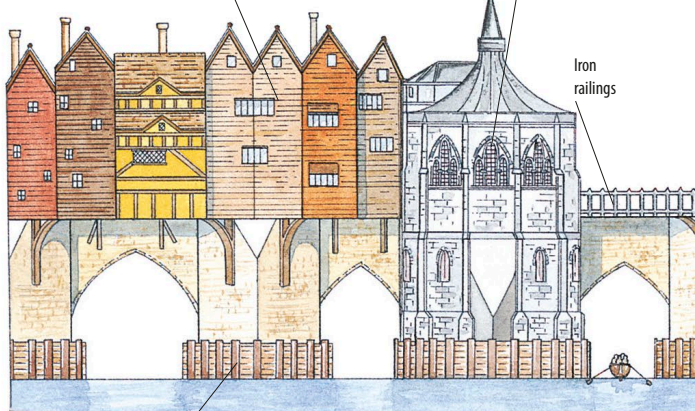
The first stone bridge was built in 1209 and lasted 600 years. It was the only bridge across the Thames in London until Westminster Bridge (1750).

Houses and shops

projected over both sides of the bridge. Shopkeepers made their own merchandise on the premises and lived above their shops. Apprentices did the selling.

The Chapel of St Thomas

erected the year the bridge was completed, was one of its first buildings.



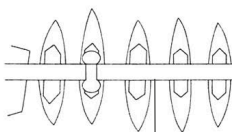
Dick Whittington

The 15th-century trader was thrice mayor of London.

The piers were made from wooden stakes rammed into the riverbed and filled with rubble.

Stag Hunting

Such sports were the chief recreation of wealthy landowners.



The arches ranged from 4.5 m (15 ft) to 10 m (35 ft) in width.

1042 Edward the Confessor becomes king

1086 Domesday Book, England's first survey, published



1191 Henry Fitzalwin becomes London's first mayor

1050

1100

1150

1200

1250

1066 William I crowned in Abbey

1065 Westminster Abbey completed

1176 Work starts on the first stone London Bridge

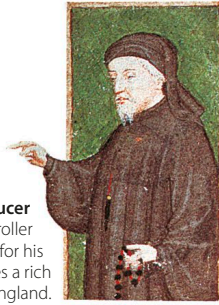
1215 King John's Magna Carta gives City more powers

1240 First parliament sits at Westminster



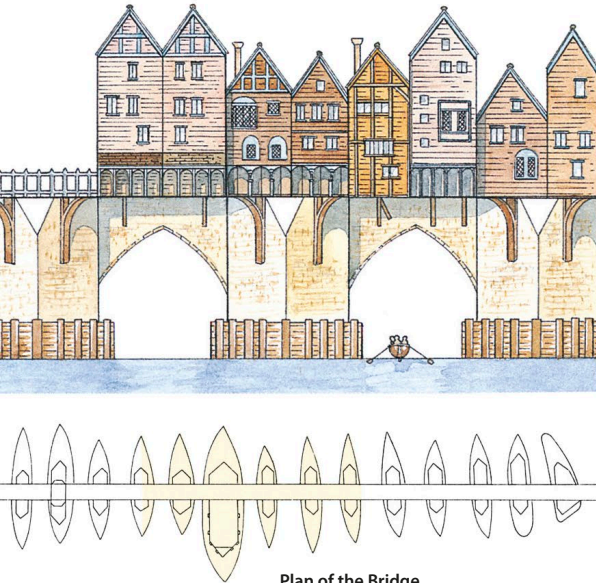
Chivalry

In later eras, medieval knights were idealized for their courage and honour. Edward Burne-Jones (1833–98) painted George, patron saint of England, rescuing a maiden from the dragon.



Geoffrey Chaucer

The poet and customs controller (see p43) is best remembered for his *Canterbury Tales*, which creates a rich picture of 14th-century England.



Plan of the Bridge

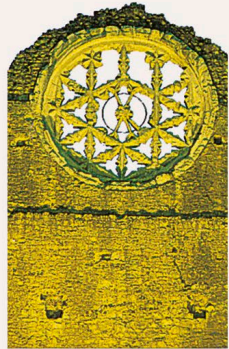
The bridge had 19 arches to span the river, making it for many years the longest stone bridge in England.

Where to See Medieval London

Only a few buildings survived the Great Fire of 1666 (see pp26–7): the Tower (see pp158–61), Westminster Hall (see p76), and Westminster Abbey (see pp80–83), and a handful of churches (see p50). The Museum of London (see pp170–71) contains artifacts, while Tate Britain (see pp86–9) and the National Gallery (see pp108–11) display paintings. Manuscripts, including the Domesday Book, are found at the British Library (see p133).

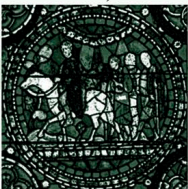


The Tower of London was started in 1078 and became one of the few centres of royal power in the largely self-governing City.



A 14th-century rose window is all that remains of Winchester Palace near the Clink on Bankside (see p179).

Many 13th-century pilgrims went to Canterbury.



1348 Black Death kills thousands

1350

1381 Peasants' Revolt defeated

1394 Westminster Hall remodelled by Henry Yevele

1400

1397 Richard Whittington becomes mayor

The Great Seal of Richard I, who spent most of his 10-year reign fighting abroad.



1450

1476 William Caxton sets up first printing press at Westminster

Elizabethan London

In the 16th century the monarchy was stronger than ever before. The Tudors established peace throughout England, allowing art and commerce to flourish. This renaissance reached its zenith under Elizabeth I, when explorers opened up the New World, and English theatre, the nation's most lasting contribution to world culture, was born.



Extent of the City

1561 Today



Death at the Stake

The Tudors dealt harshly with social and religious dissent. Here Bishops Latimer and Ridley are executed for heresy in 1555, when Elizabeth's sister, Mary I, was queen. Traitors could expect to be hung, drawn and quartered.



In the yard,

below the level of the stage, commoners stood to watch the play.

Hunting and Hawking

Popular 16th-century pastimes are shown on this cushion cover.

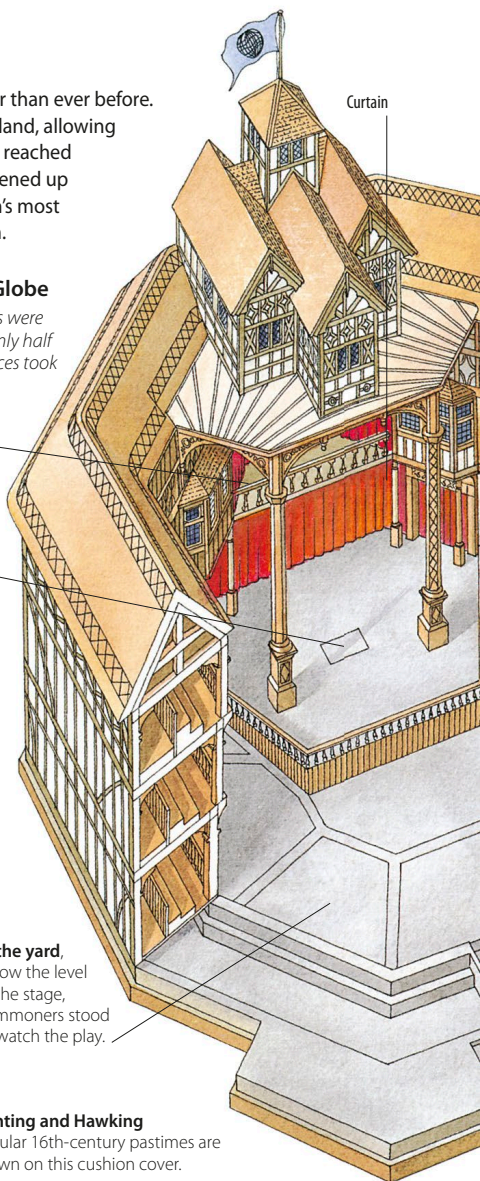
Shakespeare's Globe

Elizabethan theatres were built of wood and only half covered; performances took place in summer.

A balcony on the stage was part of the scenery.

The thrust stage

had a trap door for special effects.



1536 Henry VIII's second wife, Anne Boleyn, executed

1535 Sir Thomas More executed for treason

1530

Rat catchers, and other pest controllers, could not prevent epidemics of plague.



1553 Edward dies, succeeded by his sister Mary I

1550

1547 Henry dies, succeeded by his son Edward VI



1534 Henry VIII breaks with the Roman Catholic church

1540

The galleries were for rich theatregoers who could watch from the comfort of seats.

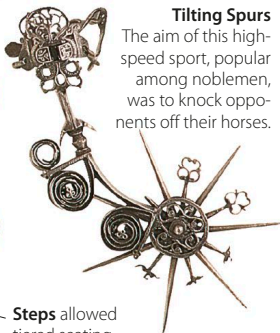


Elizabeth I

The “Virgin Queen” sat for this portrait to celebrate victory over the Spanish in 1588.

Tilting Spurs

The aim of this high-speed sport, popular among noblemen, was to knock opponents off their horses.



Steps allowed tiered seating.



Astronomical Clock

Made in 1540 at Hampton Court, this device shows the sun moving round the earth.

Where to See Elizabethan London

The Great Fire of 1666 wiped out the City. Fortunately, Middle Temple Hall (see p143), Staple Inn (see p145) and the Lady Chapel inside Westminster Abbey (see pp80–83) were beyond its reach. The Museum of London (see pp170–71), Victoria and Albert (see pp214–17), and Geffrye Museums (see p252) have fine furniture and artifacts. Further afield are Hampton Court (see pp260–63) and Sutton House (see p252).



Elizabeth I watched *Twelfth Night* by Shakespeare under the hammerbeam roof of Middle Temple Hall in 1603.



The Parr Pot, now in the Museum of London, was made by Venetian craftsmen in London in 1547.

1563 Plague sweeps Europe



1560

1570 Francis Drake makes first voyage to the West Indies

1584 Walter Raleigh's first attempt to colonize America

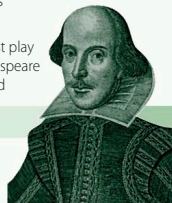
1580



Gloves made from imported silk and velvet

1588 Drake defeats Spanish Armada

1591 First play by Shakespeare produced



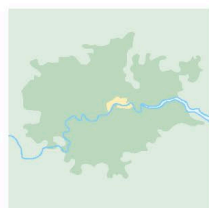
1590

1558 Mary I's death makes Elizabeth queen

1603 Elizabeth dies, James I accedes

Restoration London

Civil War broke out in 1642 when the mercantile class demanded that some of the monarch's power be passed to Parliament. The subsequent Commonwealth was dominated by Puritans under Oliver Cromwell. The Puritans outlawed simple pleasures, such as dancing and theatre, so it was small wonder that the Restoration of the monarchy under Charles II in 1660 was greeted with rejoicing and the release of pent-up creative energies. The period was, however, also marked with two major tragedies: the Plague (1665) and the Great Fire (1666).



Extent of the City

1680

Today



St Paul's was destroyed in the fire that raged as far west as Fetter Lane (map 14 E1).

London Bridge itself survived, but many of the buildings on it were burned down.

Oliver Cromwell

He led the Parliamentary army and was Lord Protector of the Realm from 1653 until his death in 1658. At the Restoration, his body was dug up and hung from the gallows at Tyburn, near Hyde Park (see p213).



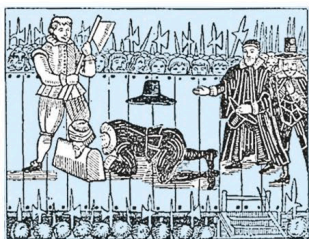
Charles I

His belief in the Divine Right of Kings angered Parliament and contributed to the Civil War.



Charles I's Death

The king was beheaded for tyranny on a freezing day (30 January 1649) outside Banqueting House (see p84).



1605 Guy Fawkes leads failed attempt to blow up the King and Parliament

1623 Shakespeare's First Folio published

1625 James I dies, succeeded by his son Charles I

1642 Civil War starts when Parliament defies the king

1620

1630

1640

1650

Feathered helmet worn by Royalist cavaliers.



1649 Charles I executed, Commonwealth established

Newton's Telescope

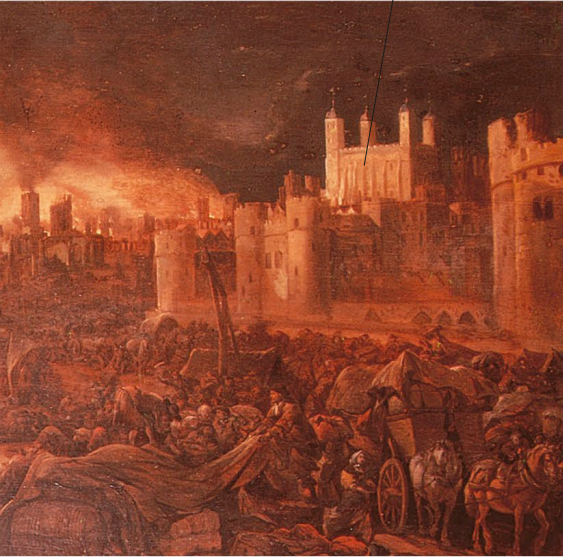
Physicist and astronomer
Sir Isaac Newton
(1642–1727)
formulated the
law of gravity.

**Samuel Pepys**

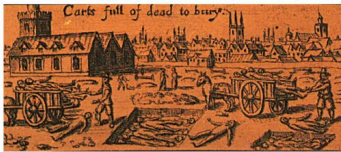
His exuberant
diaries tell us
much about
courtly life
of the time.



The Tower of London
was just out of the
fire's reach.

**The Great Fire of 1666**

An unidentified Dutch artist painted this view of the fire, which burned for five days, destroying 13,000 houses.

**The Plague**

During 1665, carts collected the dead and took them to communal graves outside the city.

**Where to See
Restoration London**

Wren's churches and his St Paul's Cathedral (see p51 and pp152–5) are, with Inigo Jones's Banqueting House (see p84), London's most famous 17th-century buildings. Other fine examples are Lincoln's Inn (see p140) and Cloth Fair (see p168). The Museum of London (see pp170–71) has a period interior. The British Museum (see pp128–31) and the V&A (see pp214–17) have large pottery, silver and textile collections.



Ham House (see p258) was built in 1610 but much enlarged later in the century. It has the finest interior of its time in England.



Peter Paul Rubens painted the ceiling in 1636 for Inigo Jones's Banqueting House (see p84). This is one of its panels.

1664–5 Plague
kills 100,000

1666
Great Fire

1685 Charles II dies,
Catholic James II
becomes king

1692 First
insurance market
opens at Lloyd's

1660

1670

1680

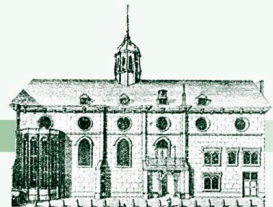
1690

1660 Monarchy
restored under
Charles II



A barber's bowl made by
London potters in 1681.

1688 James ousted in
favour of Protestant
William of Orange



1694 First Bank of England set up
by William Paterson

Georgian London

The foundation of the Bank of England in 1694 spurred the growth of London and, by the time George I came to the throne in 1714, it had become an important financial and commercial centre. Aristocrats with West End estates began laying out elegant squares and terraces to house newly rich merchants. Architects such as the Adam brothers, John Soane and John Nash developed stylish medium-scale housing. They drew inspiration from the great European capitals, as did English painters, sculptors, composers and craftsmen.



Extent of the City

1810 Today



Great Cumberland Place

Built in 1790, it was named after a royal duke and military commander.



Grosvenor Square

Few of the original houses remain on one of the oldest and largest Mayfair squares (1720).

Portman Square

was on the town's outskirts when it was started in 1764.

Manchester Square

was laid out in 1776–8.



Docks

Purpose-built docks handled the growth in world trade.

1714 George I becomes king

1727 George II becomes king

1720

1717 Hanover Square built, start of West End development



1729 John Wesley (1703–91) founds the Methodist Church

1740

1760 George III becomes king

1768 Royal Academy of Art established

1760

1770

1759 Kew Gardens established





John Nash

Nash shaped 18th-century London with variations on Classical themes, such as this archway in Cumberland Terrace, near Regent's Park.

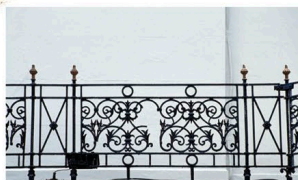
Georgian London

The layout of much of London's West End has remained very similar to how it was in 1828, when this map was published.



Ironwork

Crafts flourished. This ornate railing is in Manchester Square.



Berkeley Square

Built in the 1730s and 1740s in the grounds of the former Berkeley House, several characteristic original houses remain on its west side.



Captain Cook

This Yorkshire-born explorer discovered Australia during a voyage round the world in 1768–71.



Signatories of the American Declaration of Independence



1776 Britain loses American colonies with Declaration of Independence

1802 Stock Exchange formally established



1800

1820 George III dies, Prince Regent becomes George IV

1810

1830 George IV dies, brother William IV is king

1820

1830

1811 George III goes mad, his son George is made Regent



1829 London's first horse bus

Victorian London

Much of London today is Victorian. Until the early 19th century, the capital had been confined to the original Roman city, plus Westminster and Mayfair to the west, ringed by fields and villages such as Brompton, Islington and Battersea. From the 1820s, these green spaces filled rapidly with terraces of houses for the growing numbers attracted to London by industrialization. Rapid expansion brought its challenges. The first cholera epidemic broke out in 1832, and in 1858 came the Great Stink, when the smell from the Thames became so bad that parliament had to go into recess. Joseph Bazalgette's sewerage system (1875), involving pumping stations on both sides of the Thames, eased the problem.



Extent of the City

1900 Today

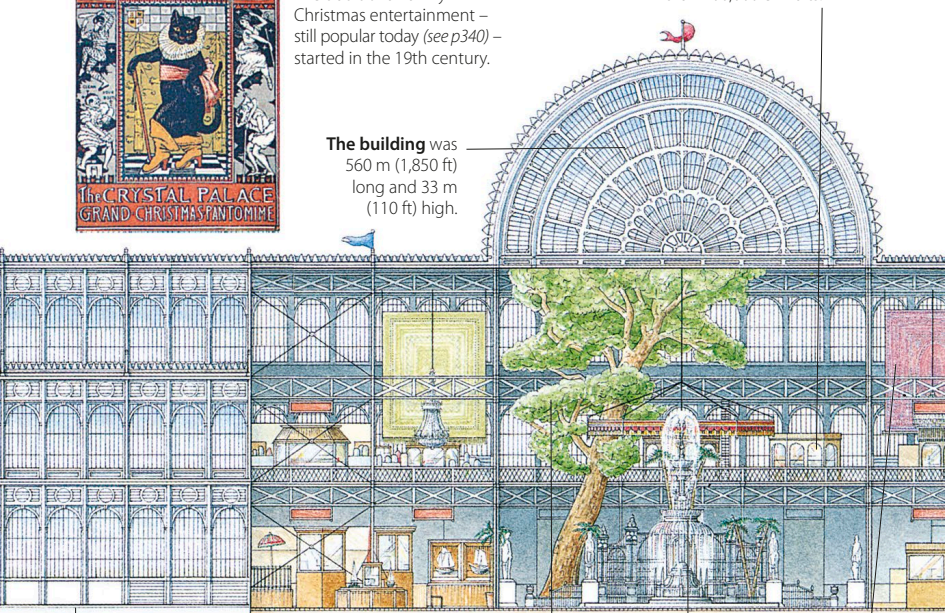
Nearly 14,000 exhibitors came from all over the world, bringing more than 100,000 exhibits.



Pantomime

The traditional family Christmas entertainment – still popular today (see p340) – started in the 19th century.

The building was 560 m (1,850 ft) long and 33 m (110 ft) high.



Soldiers marched and jumped on the floor to test its strength before the exhibition opened.

Massive elm trees growing in Hyde Park were left standing and the exhibition was erected around them.

The Crystal Fountain was 8 m (27 ft) high.

Carpets and stained glass were hung from the galleries.

1836 First London rail terminus opens at London Bridge

1837 Victoria becomes queen

1851 Great Exhibition

A Wedgwood plate in typically florid Victorian style

1861 Prince Albert dies



1840

1850

1860



1840 Rowland Hill introduces the Penny Post



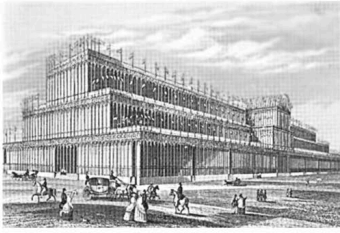
Season ticket for Great Exhibition

1863 Metropolitan Railway, world's first underground system, is opened



Railways

By 1900 fast trains, such as this *Scotch Express*, were crossing the country.



Crystal Palace

Between May and October 1851, 6 million people visited Joseph Paxton's superb feat of engineering. In 1852, it was dismantled and reassembled in south London, where it remained until destroyed by fire in 1936.

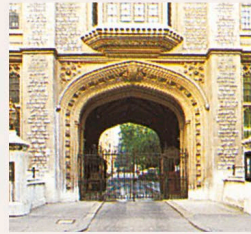
Formal dress became prevalent – under

Victoria, elaborate men's attire was replaced by more restrained evening wear.

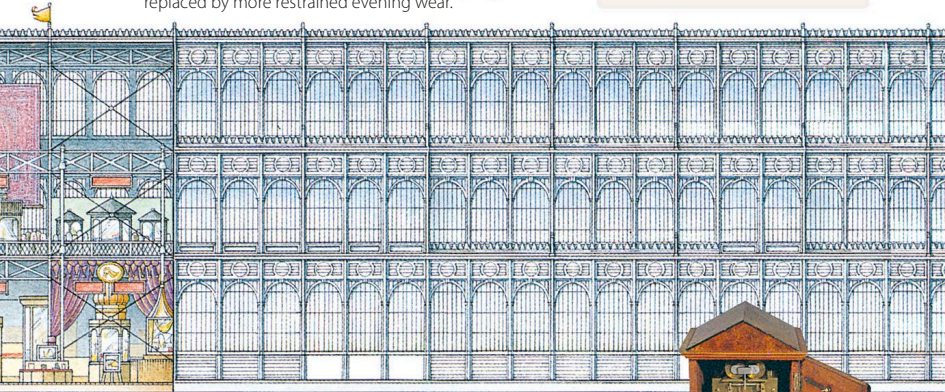


Where to See Victorian London

Grandiose buildings best reflect the spirit of the age, notably the rail termini, the Kensington Museums (see pp202–17) and the Royal Albert Hall (see p209). Leighton House (see p222) has a well-preserved interior. Pottery and fabrics are in the Victoria and Albert Museum, and the London Transport Museum (see p118) has buses, trams and trains.



The Maughan Library in Chancery Lane is an example of Victorian Gothic architecture.



The Great Exhibition of 1851

The exhibition, held in the Crystal Palace in Hyde Park, celebrated industry, technology and the expanding British Empire.

Telegraph

Newly invented communications technology, like this telegraph from 1840, made business expansion easier.



1870 First Peabody Buildings, to house the poor, built in Blackfriars Road



1890 First electric Underground line, from Bank to Stockwell, opens

1891 First LCC public housing built, in Shoreditch

1901 Queen Victoria dies; Edward VII accedes

1870

1880

1890

1900



A special box for carrying top hats

1889 London County Council (LCC) established

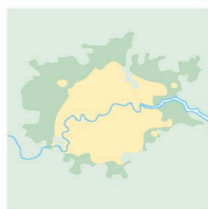
1899 First motor buses introduced



Commemorative fan for the Boer War, which ended in 1903

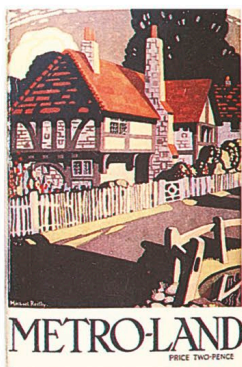
London and Two World Wars

During World War I, Zeppelin airships bombed the city, and the sight of injured soldiers returning from the front to be treated at Charing Cross Hospital became familiar. The society that emerged from the war embraced the innovations of the early 20th century – the motor car, telephone and commuter transport. Then came the Depression of the 1930s, the effects of which had barely worn off when World War II began. The city was once again bombarded, though on a vastly bigger scale, most notably during the Blitz of 1940–41.



Extent of the City

1938 Today



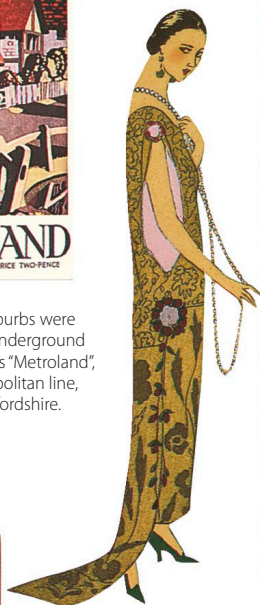
Commuting

London's new outer suburbs were made popular by the Underground railway. In the north was "Metroland", named after the Metropolitan, which penetrated Hertfordshire.



Communications

The radio provided home entertainment and information. This is a 1933 model.



High Fashion

The sleek flowing new styles contrasted with the fussy elaboration of the Victorians and Edwardians. This tea gown is from the 1920s.

Formal evening wear, including hats for both sexes, was still compulsory when going to smart West End night spots.



A London Street Scene

Maurice Greiffenhagen's painting (1926) captures the bustle of London after dark.

Medals like this one from 1914 were struck during the campaign for women's votes.



1910

1910 George V succeeds Edward VII



Cavalry was still used in the Middle Eastern battles of World War I (1914–18).

1921 North Circular Road links northern suburbs

1920

1922 First BBC national radio broadcast



Victory march

American flags were flown in peace parades on the streets of London to celebrate the end of World War I.



George VI

Oswald Birley painted this portrait of the king who became a model for wartime resistance and unity.



Seven new theatres

were built in central London between 1924 and 1931.

Early motor buses

had open tops, like the old horse-drawn buses.

Throughout the period newspaper circulations increased massively. In 1930, *The Daily Herald* sold 2 million copies a day.

World War II and the Blitz

World War II saw large-scale civilian bombing for the first time, bringing the horror of war to Londoners' doorsteps. Thousands were killed in their homes. Many people took refuge in Underground stations and children were evacuated to the safety of the countryside.



As in World War I, women were recruited for factory work formerly done by men who were away fighting.



Bombing raids in 1940 and 1941 (the Blitz) caused devastation all over the city.

1929 US stock market crash brings world Depression

1925

1930

1927 First talking pictures



1936 Edward VIII abdicates to marry US divorcée Wallis Simpson. George VI accedes

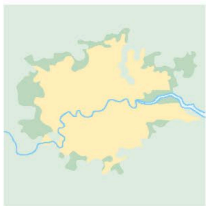
1939 World War II begins

1940 Winston Churchill becomes prime minister



Postwar London

Much of London was flattened by World War II bombs. Afterwards, the chance for imaginative rebuilding was missed – some badly designed postwar developments have since been razed. But, by the 1960s, London was such a dynamic world leader in fashion and popular music that *Time* magazine dubbed it “swinging London”. Skyscrapers sprang up, but some stayed empty as the 1980s boom gave way to 1990s recession.



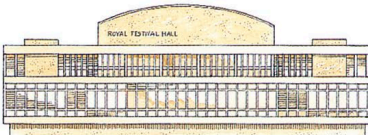
Extent of the City
1959 Today



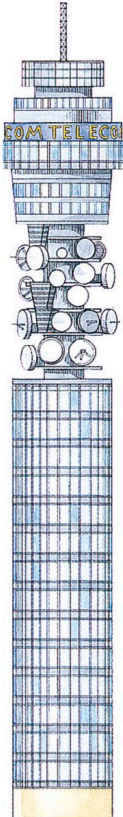
The Beatles
The Liverpool pop group, pictured in 1965, had rocketed to stardom two years earlier with songs of appealing freshness and directness. The group symbolized carefree 1960s London.



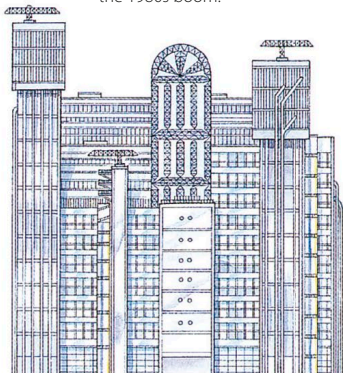
Festival of Britain
After wartime, the city's morale was lifted by the Festival, marking the 1851 Great Exhibition's centenary (see pp30–31).



The Royal Festival Hall (1951)
was the Festival's centrepiece and is still a landmark (see p192).



Telecom Tower (1964), at 189 m (620 ft) high, dominates the Fitzrovia skyline.



The Lloyd's Building (1986) is Richard Rogers' Post-Modernist emblem (see pp162–3).



Margaret Thatcher
Britain's first female prime minister (1979–90) promoted the market-led policies that fuelled the 1980s boom.



1948 Olympic Games held in London

1952 George VI dies; his daughter Elizabeth II accedes



Minis became a symbol of the 1960s; small and manoeuvrable, they typified the go-as-you-please mood of the decade.

1945

1950

1955

1960

1965

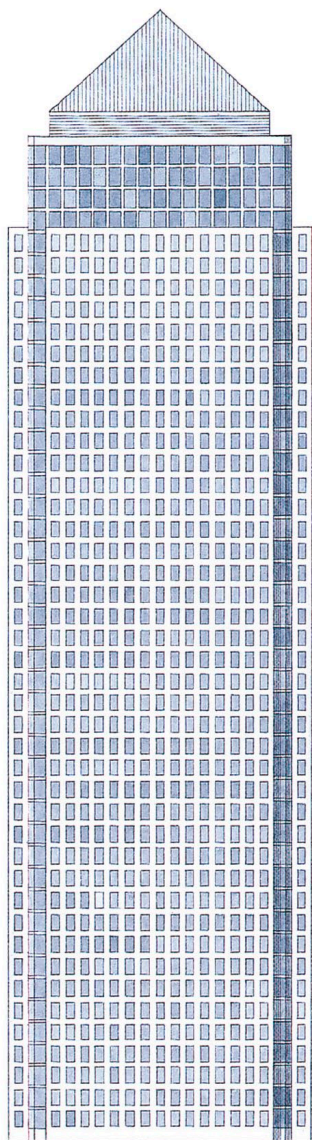
1945
End of World War II

1951 Festival of Britain

1954
Food rationing, introduced during World War II, abolished



1963
National Theatre founded at the Old Vic



One Canada Square (1991) in Canary Wharf (see p253) was designed by César Pelli.

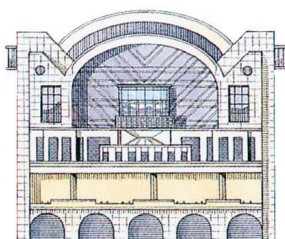


Docklands Light Railway

In the 1980s, new, driver-less trains started to transport people to the developing Docklands.

Post-Modern Architecture

Since the 1980s, architects have reacted against the stark shapes of the Modernists. Architect Richard Rogers emphasizes structural features; others, like Terry Farrell, adopt a more playful approach using pastiches of Classical features.



Charing Cross (1991) has Terry Farrell's glasshouse on top of the Victorian station (see p123).

Youth Culture

With their new mobility and spending power, young people began to influence the development of British popular culture in the years after World War II. Music, fashion and design were increasingly geared to their rapidly changing tastes.



Punks were a phenomenon of the 1970s and 1980s. Their clothes, music and hair were designed to shock.



The Royal Wedding

The marriage between Prince Charles and Lady Diana Spencer turned the new Princess of Wales into a global style icon.

1977 Queen's Silver Jubilee; work starts on the Underground's Jubilee line

1981 Prince Charles and Lady Diana Spencer marry at St Paul's Cathedral

1984 Thames Barrier completed

1986 Greater London Council abolished

1992 Canary Wharf development opens

1970

1975

1980

1985

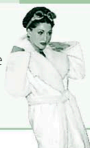
1990

1995

1971 New London Bridge built

1982 Sovereignty disputes over South Atlantic islands lead to the Falklands War between Britain and Argentina

1985 Ethiopian famine prompts Live Aid relief campaign



Vivienne Westwood's clothes won prizes in the 1980s and 1990s.

Modern London

In 1997 Tony Blair entered Downing Street as prime minister after New Labour secured a landslide victory. The following years saw the city busy with grand building projects and new cultural attractions to mark the year 2000, including the Tate Modern, the London Eye, the Millennium Dome (now the O2 arena) and the Millennium Bridge. Soon after, Great Britain was protesting against the invasion of Iraq and the country joined the international effort against terrorism. Sadly, July 2005 saw the capital city blighted by a horrific terrorist attack on its transport system. In 2012, London was celebrating again as it hosted a hugely successful Olympic Games.

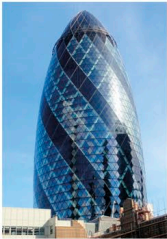
1997 Tony Blair enters Downing Street



2000 Ken Livingstone becomes London's first directly elected mayor

2003 Over a million people march in London against the second Iraq war

2004 One of London's most distinctive buildings, 30 St Mary Axe, also known as "the Gherkin", opens



2005 London's public transport system suffers a major terrorist attack

1995	2000	2005
	Livingstone	Johnson
1995	2000	2005

1997 Princess Diana's funeral procession brings London to a halt



2000 A series of new projects opens for the millennium, including the Tate Modern, London Eye and Millennium Bridge

2003 The congestion charge is introduced in central areas of the city prone to heavy traffic

2008 Boris Johnson becomes London mayor



2002 Celebrations held around the city for the Queen's Golden Jubilee





2010 "Boris Bikes" available to ride around the city in a new cycle hire scheme



Celebrations for the Queen's Diamond Jubilee

2011 Prince William marries Catherine Middleton

2012 The Queen celebrates her Diamond Jubilee and London hosts the Olympic Games

2013 A new royal heir, George Alexander Louis, is born to Prince William and Catherine

2015 Princess Charlotte is born



2010

2015

2020

Khan

2010

2015

2020

2013
The tallest building in the city, the Shard, opens

2011 Thousands of people riot across the city, resulting in looting, arson and violence

2016 Sadiq Khan becomes London mayor

2015 The Conservative party wins the general election



2010 The Conservatives and the Liberal Democrats form a coalition government

The Shard



Kings and Queens in London

London has been the royal capital of England since 1066, when William the Conqueror began a tradition of holding coronations in Westminster Abbey. Since then, successive kings and queens have left their mark on London and many of the places described in this book have royal associations: Henry VIII hunted at Richmond, Charles I was executed on Whitehall and the young Queen Victoria rode on Queensway. Royalty is also celebrated in many of London's traditional ceremonies – for more details on these, turn to pages 56–9.



1066–87
William the Conqueror

1087–1100 William II

1100–35 Henry I

1135–54 Stephen

1327–77 Edward III

1050	1100	1150	1200	1250	1300	1350	1400	1450	1500	1550
Norman			Plantagenet			Lancaster		York	Tudor	
1050	1100	1150	1200	1250	1300	1350	1400	1450	1500	1550

1154–89 Henry II

1189–99 Richard I

1199–1216 John

1216–72 Henry III

1307–27
Edward II

1272–1307 Edward I

1461–70
and
1471–83
Edward IV

1547–53
Edward VI

1422–61
and 1470–1
Henry VI



1377–99 Richard II

Matthew Paris's 13th-century chronicle showing kings Richard I, Henry II, John and Henry III.



1483 Edward V

1413–22 Henry V

1509–47
Henry VIII

1485–1509
Henry VII

1483–5
Richard III

1553–8
Mary I



1689–1702
William and Mary

1685–8 James II

1660–85
Charles II

1603–25
James I

1702–14
Anne

1714–27
George I



1837–1901
Victoria

1727–60
George II

1901–10
Edward VII

1936 Edward VIII



1952– Elizabeth II

1600	1650	1700	1750	1800	1850	1900	1950	2000	2050
Stuart		Hanover				Windor			
1600	1650	1700	1750	1800	1850	1900	1950	2000	2050



1649–60 The Commonwealth,
established by Oliver Cromwell

1830–37
William IV

1820–30
George IV



1936–52 George VI shown
on the George Medal



1625–49 Charles I

1558–1603
Elizabeth I



1760–1820 George III

1910–36
George V





A HISTORY OF THE WORLD
IN 100 OBJECTS

ANCIENT EGYPTIAN
BOOK OF THE DEAD

THE 100
OBJECTS OF THE WORLD

and let thy feet
millenniums hence
be set in mud of knowledge.

LONDON AT A GLANCE

There are nearly 300 places of interest described in the *Area by Area* section of this book. These range from the magnificent National Gallery (see pp108–11) to the gruesome Old Operating Theatre (see p180), and from ancient Charterhouse (see p168) to modern Canary Wharf (see p253). To help you make the most of your stay, the following

18 pages are a time-saving guide to the best London has to offer. Museums and galleries, churches, and parks and gardens each have a section, along with guides to remarkable Londoners and ceremonies in London. Each sight mentioned is cross-referenced to its own full entry. Below are the top ten tourist attractions to start you off.

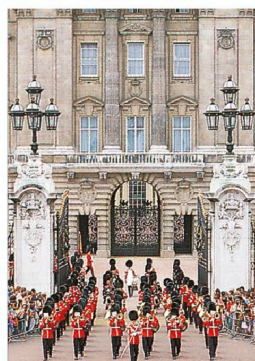
London's Top Ten Tourist Attractions



St Paul's
See pp152–5.



National Gallery
See pp108–11.



Changing the Guard
Buckingham Palace, see pp98–9.



London Eye
See p193.



Hampton Court
See pp260–63.



Westminster Abbey
See pp80–83.



British Museum
See pp128–31.



Houses of Parliament
See pp76–7.



Tower of London
See pp158–61.



Victoria and Albert Museum
See pp214–17.

Remarkable Londoners

London has always been a gathering place for the most prominent and influential people of the time – some coming to London from other parts of Britain, some from countries further afield, others born and bred Londoners. All have left their mark on London by designing great and lasting buildings, establishing institutions and traditions, or immortalizing the city they know in art and literature. Most of these figures have also influenced the wider world as a result of their success.



John Nash's Theatre Royal Haymarket (1821)

Architects and Engineers

A number of people who built London still have works standing. Inigo Jones (1573–1652), London-born, was the father of English Renaissance architecture. He lived and worked at Great Scotland Yard, Whitehall, then the residence of the royal architect – he was later succeeded by Sir Christopher Wren (1632–1723).

Wren's successors as the prime architects of London were his protégé Nicholas Hawksmoor (1661–1736)

and James Gibbs (1682–1754). Succeeding generations each produced architects who were to stamp their genius on the city: the brothers Robert (1728–92) and James Adam (1730–94), then John Nash (1752–1835), Sir Charles Barry (1795–1860), Decimus Burton (1800–81), Alfred Waterhouse (1830–1905), Norman Shaw (1831–1912), and Sir George Gilbert Scott (1811–78). Sir Joseph Bazalgette (1819–91) built London's sewer system and the Thames Embankment. More recently, Sir Norman Foster (1935–) has



Venus Ventricordia by Dante Gabriel Rossetti

left his mark with such iconic buildings as 30 St Mary Axe, known as "the Gherkin".

Artists

Painters in London, as elsewhere, often lived in enclaves, for mutual support and because they shared common priorities. During the 18th century, artists clustered around the court at St James's to be near their patrons. Thus both William Hogarth (1697–1764) and Sir Joshua Reynolds (1723–92) lived and worked in Leicester Square, while Thomas Gainsborough (1727–88) lived in Pall Mall. (Hogarth's Chiswick house was his place in the country.)

Later, Cheyne Walk in Chelsea, with its river views, became popular with artists, including the masters J M W Turner (1775–1851), James McNeill Whistler (1834–1903), Dante Gabriel Rossetti (1828–82), Philip Wilson Steer (1860–1942) and the sculptor Sir Jacob Epstein (1880–1959). Augustus John (1879–1961) and John

Historic London Homes

Four writers' homes that have been recreated are those of the romantic poet **John Keats** (1795–1821), the historian **Thomas Carlyle** (1795–1881), the lexicographer **Dr Samuel Johnson** (1709–84), and the prolific and popular novelist **Charles Dickens** (1812–70). The house that the architect **Sir John Soane** (1753–1837) designed for himself remains largely as it was when he died, as does the house where the psychiatrist **Sigmund Freud** (1856–1939) settled after fleeing Austria before World War II.

Apsley House, on Hyde Park Corner, was the residence of the **Duke of Wellington** (1769–1852), hero of the Battle of Waterloo. The life and music of Baroque composer **George Frideric Handel** (1685–1759) are recalled at his former home in Mayfair. Finally, the rooms of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's fictional detective **Sherlock Holmes** have been created in Baker Street.



Carlyle's House

Plaques

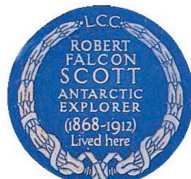
All over London, the former homes of well-known figures are marked by plaques. Look out for these, especially in Chelsea, Kensington and Mayfair, and see how many names you recognize.



No. 3 Sussex Square,
Kensington



No. 27b Canonbury Square,
Islington



No. 56 Oakley Street,
Chelsea

Singer Sargent (1856–1925) had studios in Tite Street.

Throughout the 20th century, independent galleries located in Cork Street, Mayfair, launched the careers of many London-based artists, including Irish-born Francis Bacon (1909–1992). Bacon is, however, most associated with the Soho of the 1950s and 60s, where his set, including painter Lucian Freud (1922–2011), gathered. In the late 1980s, a group of artists known as the Young British Artists, including Damien Hirst and Tracey Emin, emerged from Goldsmiths College of Art. They were associated with Hoxton and the East End, where the art scene has thrived in recent decades. Artist duo Gilbert & George also live and work in the area, incorporating photographs of the East End into their work.



Novelist Zadie Smith

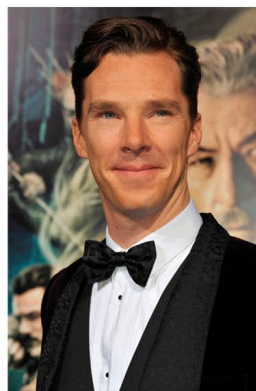
Sloane Street, near the Cadogan Hotel, where the flamboyant Oscar Wilde (1854–1900) was arrested in 1895 for homosexuality. Playwright George Bernard Shaw (1856–1950) lived at No. 29 Fitzroy Square in Bloomsbury. Later the same house was home to Virginia Woolf (1882–1941) and became a meeting place for the Bloomsbury Group, which included Vanessa Bell, John Maynard Keynes, E M Forster, Roger Fry and Duncan Grant. Current

authors with works set in modern London include Monica Ali, who wrote *Brick Lane*, Ian McEwan and Zadie Smith, who often focuses on her native northwest

London. Sarah Waters has explored the city through novels set in different historic periods, as has Peter Ackroyd, also the writer of the magisterial *London: The Biography* and *Thames: Sacred River*.

poverty-stricken childhood in the slums of London.

In the 20th century, a school of fine actors blossomed at the Old Vic, including Sir John Gielgud (1904–2001), Sir Ralph Richardson (1902–83), Dame Peggy Ashcroft (1907–91) and Laurence (later Lord) Olivier (1907–89), who was appointed the first director of the National Theatre. Today, numerous London-born actors who have achieved a global level of fame on the big screen have chosen to return to the London stage, including Benedict Cumberbatch, Chiwetel Ejiofor, Jude Law, Tom Hiddleston and Carey Mulligan.



Benedict Cumberbatch

Writers

Geoffrey Chaucer (c.1345–1400), author of *The Canterbury Tales*, was born in Upper Thames Street, the son of an innkeeper. William Shakespeare (1564–1616) and Christopher Marlowe (1564–93) were both associated with the theatres in Southwark, and may have lived nearby.

Poets John Donne (1572–1631) and John Milton (1608–74) were both born in Bread Street in the City. Donne, after a profligate youth, became Dean of St Paul's. The diarist Samuel Pepys (1633–1703) was born off Fleet Street.

The young novelist Jane Austen (1775–1817) lived briefly off

Actors

Nell Gwynne (1650–87) won more fame as King Charles II's mistress than as an actress. However, she did appear on stage at Drury Lane Theatre; she also sold oranges there. The Shakespearean actor Edmund Kean (1789–1833) and the great tragic actress Sarah Siddons (1755–1831) were more distinguished players at Drury Lane. So were Henry Irving (1838–1905) and Ellen Terry (1847–1928), whose stage partnership lasted 24 years. Charlie Chaplin (1889–1977), born in Kennington, had a

Where to Find Historic London Homes

Thomas Carlyle p200
Charles Dickens p132
Sigmund Freud p250
George Frideric Handel p101
William Hogarth p265
Sherlock Holmes p230
Dr Samuel Johnson p144
John Keats p237
Sir John Soane pp140–41
Duke of Wellington pp100–101

London's Best: Museums and Galleries

London's museums are filled with an astonishing diversity of treasures from all over the world. This map highlights 15 of the city's most important galleries and museums, whose exhibits cater to most interests. Some of these collections started from the legacies of 18th- and 19th-century explorers, traders and collectors. Others specialize in one aspect of art, history, science or technology. A more detailed overview of London's museums and galleries is on pages 46–7.



British Museum

This Anglo-Saxon helmet is part of a massive collection of antiquities.



Wallace Collection

Frans Hals's *Laughing Cavalier* is a star attraction in this museum of art, furniture, armour and *objets d'art*.

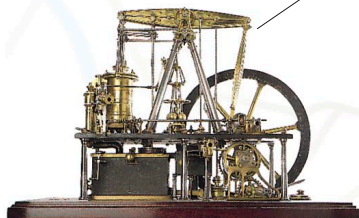
Royal Academy of Arts

Major international art exhibitions are held here, and the renowned Summer Exhibition, when works are on sale, takes place every year.



Natural History Museum

All of life is here, with vivid displays on everything from dinosaurs (like this Triceratops skull) to butterflies.



Science Museum

Newcomen's steam engine of 1712 is just one of many exhibits that appeal to both novice and expert.



Victoria and Albert Museum

A museum dedicated to decorative arts with literally millions of objects in its collection. This Indian vase is from the 18th century.



Regent's Park
and Marylebone

Kensington and
Holland Park

South Kensington
and
Knightsbridge

Piccadilly,
Mayfair and
St James's

Chelsea



National Portrait Gallery

Important British figures are the subjects of paintings and photographs. This is Vivien Leigh, by Angus McBean (1954).

National Gallery

The world-famous paintings in the national collection are mainly European and date from the 15th to the 19th centuries.



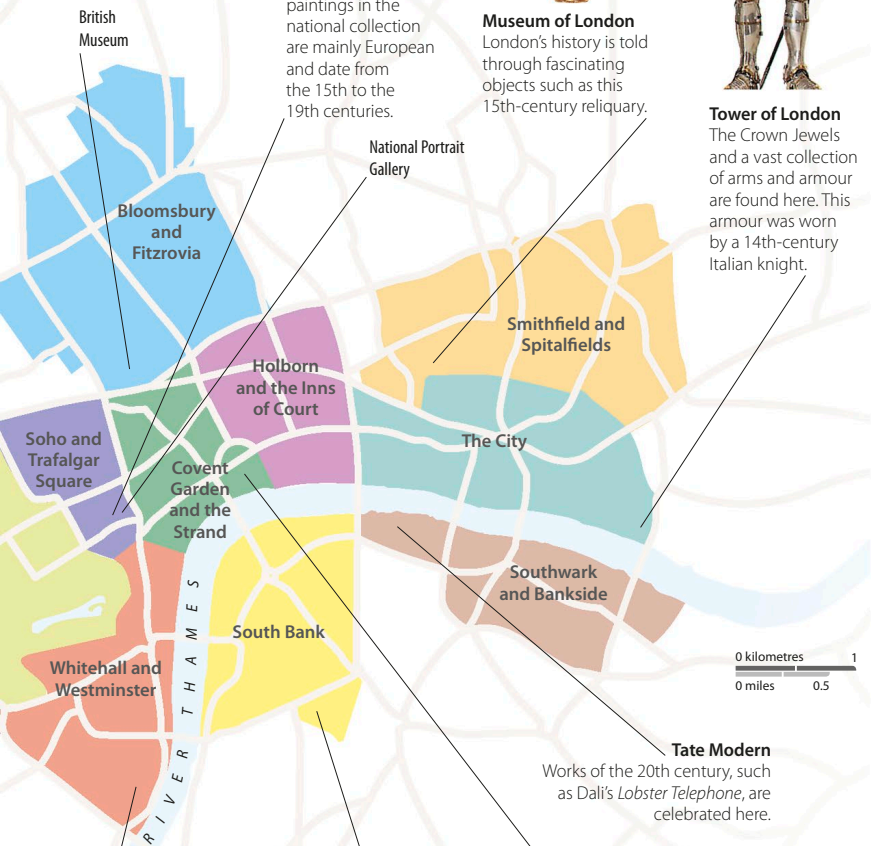
Museum of London

London's history is told through fascinating objects such as this 15th-century reliquary.



Tower of London

The Crown Jewels and a vast collection of arms and armour are found here. This armour was worn by a 14th-century Italian knight.



0 kilometres 1
0 miles 0.5

Tate Britain

Formerly the Tate Gallery, this museum showcases an outstanding collection of British art from the 16th century to the present.



Imperial War Museum

Displays, film and special effects are used to recreate 20th-century battles. This is one of the earliest tanks.

Tate Modern

Works of the 20th century, such as Dali's *Lobster Telephone*, are celebrated here.



Courtauld Gallery

Well-known works, such as Manet's *A Bar at the Folies-Bergère*, line its galleries.

Exploring Museums and Galleries

London boasts an astonishingly diverse collection of museums. The city's extraordinarily rich cultural heritage has in part been due to its position at the hub of worldwide trade. Britain's rule of a far-flung empire has also played its part. The world-renowned collections are impressive, but find time for the city's range of smaller museums, which are often more peaceful than their grander counterparts. Brimming with character, they cover every imaginable theme, from buses and toys to electricity and water power.



Geffrye Museum: Art Nouveau Room

Antiquities and Archaeology

Some of the most celebrated artifacts of ancient Asia, Egypt, Greece and Rome are housed in the **British Museum's** fine collection. Other antiquities, including books, manuscripts, paintings, busts and gems, are displayed in **Sir John Soane's Museum**, which is one of the most idiosyncratic to be found in London.

The **Museum of London** contains much of archaeological interest from all periods of the city's history.



Eclectic collection at Sir John Soane's Museum

Furniture and Interiors

The Museum of London recreates typical domestic and commercial interiors from the Roman period right up to the present day. The **Victoria and Albert Museum** (or V&A) contains complete rooms rescued from now vanished buildings, plus a magnificent collection of furniture ranging from the 16th century to work

by contemporary designers. On a more modest scale, the **Geffrye Museum** consists of fully furnished period rooms dating from 1600 to the 1990s. Former homes of individuals, such as the **Freud Museum**, give insights into the furniture of specific periods, while **18 Stafford Terrace** offers visitors a perfectly preserved example of a late Victorian interior.

Costume and Jewellery

The **V&A's** vast collections include English and European clothes of the last 400 years, and some stunning jewellery from China, India and Japan. The priceless Crown Jewels, at the **Tower of London**, should not be missed; they include the world's largest cut diamond, the First Star of Africa, set in the Sceptre with the Cross. **Kensington Palace's** Ceremonial Dress Collection includes pieces worn by many notable royals. The **British Museum** displays ancient Aztec, Mayan and African costume.

Crafts and Design

Once again, the **Victoria and Albert Museum** (V&A) is the essential first port of call; its collections in these fields remain unrivalled. The **William Morris Gallery** shows every aspect of the 19th-century designer's work within the Arts and Crafts movement. The **Design Museum** focuses on modern design including products and fashion. The **Fashion and Textile Museum** mounts temporary exhibitions about many aspects of fashion.

Military Artifacts

The **National Army Museum** uses vivid models and displays to narrate the history of the British Army. Near Whitehall, the **Guards Museum** and **Household Cavalry Museum** focus on the Foot Guards and mounted royal regiments respectively. The **Tower of London** holds part of the national collection of arms and armour; an impressive



Design Museum display of chairs

display can be found at the **Wallace Collection**. The **Imperial War Museum** has recreations of World War I trenches and the Blitz. The **National Maritime Museum** has the definitive display on Lord Nelson and his naval battles and the **Florence Nightingale Museum** illustrates the hardships of 19th-century warfare.



Imperial War Museum

Toys and Childhood

Teddy bears, tin soldiers and doll's houses are some of the toys that can be seen in **Pollock's Toy Museum**. The collection includes Eric, "the oldest known teddy bear". The **V&A Museum of Childhood** and the **Museum of London** are a little more formal, but still fun, and illustrate aspects of the social history of childhood, with both offering some interesting children's activities.

Science and Natural History

Computers, electricity, space exploration, industrial processes and transport can all be explored at the **Science Museum**. Transport enthusiasts are also catered for at the **London Transport Museum**. Other specialized

museums include the **Faraday Museum**, covering the development of electricity, and the **London Museum of Water & Steam**, focusing on water power. Greenwich's **Royal Observatory** charts both the history of astronomy and the creation of GMT, by which the world still sets its clocks. The **Natural History Museum** mixes displays on animal life with eco-logical exhibits. Both the **Grant Museum of Zoology** and the **Horniman Museum** have superb Victorian collections of taxidermy specimens and skeletons.

Visual Arts

The particular strengths of the **National Gallery** are early Renaissance Italian and 17th-century Spanish painting and a wonderful collection of Dutch masters. **Tate Britain** specializes in British paintings spanning all periods, while **Tate Modern** has displays of international modern art from 1900 to the present day. The **V&A** is strong on European art from 1500 to 1900 and British art of 1700–1900. The **Royal Academy** and the **Hayward Gallery** both have major temporary exhibitions. The **Courtauld Institute of Art Gallery** contains Impressionist and Post-Impressionist works, while the **Wallace Collection** has 17th-century Dutch and 18th-century French paintings. The **Dulwich Picture Gallery** includes works by Rembrandt, Rubens, Poussin and Gainsborough, while **Kenwood House** is home to paintings



Samson and Delilah (1620) by Van Dyck at the Dulwich Picture Gallery

by Reynolds, Gainsborough and Rubens in fine Adam interiors. The **Saatchi Gallery** is devoted to contemporary international art.

Where to Find the Collections

18 Stafford Terrace p222
 British Museum pp128–31
 Courtauld Institute of Art Gallery p121
 Design Museum p222
 Dulwich Picture Gallery p256
 Fashion and Textile Museum p187
 Faraday Museum p101
 Florence Nightingale Museum p194
 Freud Museum p250
 Geffrye Museum p252
 Grant Museum of Zoology p135
 Guards Museum p85
 Hayward Gallery p192
 Horniman Museum p256
 Household Cavalry Museum p84
 Imperial War Museum p194
 Kensington Palace p212
 Kenwood House pp238–9
 London Museum of Water & Steam p264
 London Transport Museum p118
 Museum of London pp170–71
 National Army Museum p201
 National Gallery pp108–11
 National Maritime Museum p244
 Natural History Museum pp206–7
 Pollock's Toy Museum p135
 Royal Academy of Arts p94
 Saatchi Gallery p201
 Science Museum pp210–11
 Sir John Soane's Museum pp140–41
 Tate Britain pp86–9
 Tate Modern pp182–5
 Tower of London pp158–61
 Victoria and Albert Museum pp214–17
 Victoria and Albert Museum of Childhood p252
 Wallace Collection p230
 William Morris Gallery p253



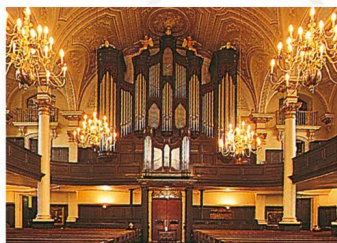
Orate Drawing Room at the Wallace Collection

London's Best: Churches

London's churches have a special atmosphere unmatched elsewhere in the city, and they can often yield an intimate glimpse of the past. Many churches have replaced earlier buildings in a steady succession going back to pre-Christian times. Some began life in outlying villages beyond London's fortified centre, and were absorbed into suburbs when the city expanded in the 18th century. The memorials in the capital's churches and churchyards are a fascinating record of local life, liberally peppered with famous names. A more detailed overview of London's churches is on pages 50–51.

St Paul's Covent Garden

Inigo Jones's Classical church was known as "the handsomest barn in England".



St Martin-in-the-Fields

James Gibbs's church of 1722–6 was originally thought "too gay" for Protestant worship.

South Kensington and Knightsbridge

Regent's Park and Marylebone

Bloomsbury and Fitzrovia

Soho and Trafalgar Square

Piccadilly, Mayfair and St James's

Whitehall and Westminster



0 kilometres 1
0 miles 0.5



All Souls

This plaque comes from a tomb in John Nash's Regency church of 1824.



Brompton Oratory

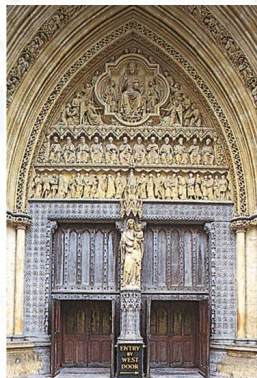
This sumptuous Baroque church is decorated with works by Italian artists.

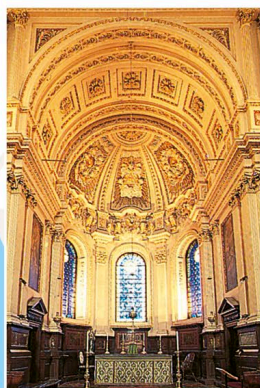
Westminster Cathedral

The Italian-Byzantine Catholic cathedral's red-and-white brick exterior conceals a rich interior of multicoloured marbles.

Westminster Abbey

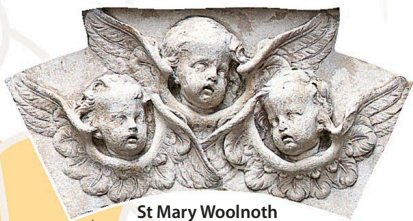
The famous abbey has the most glorious medieval architecture in London, and highly impressive tombs and monuments.





St Mary-le-Strand

Now on a traffic island, this ship-like church was built by James Gibbs in 1714–17 to a lively Baroque design, and features high windows and a rich interior.



St Mary Woolnoth

The jewel-like interior of Nicholas Hawksmoor's small Baroque church (1716–27) appears larger than the outside suggests.

Smithfield and
Spitalfields

Holborn and
the Inns of
Court

Covent
Garden
and the
Strand

The City

Southwark
and
Bankside

South
Bank

RIVER
THAMES



St Stephen Walbrook

Wren was at his best with this domed interior of 1672–7. Its carvings include Henry Moore's austere modern altar.

St Paul's

At 110 m (360 ft) high, the dome of Wren's cathedral is the world's second-largest after St Peter's in Rome.



Temple Church

Built in the 12th and 13th centuries for the Knights Templar, this is one of the few circular churches to survive in England.

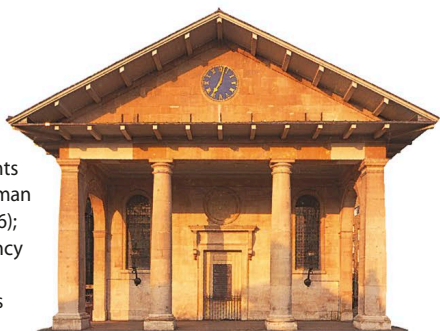


Southwark Cathedral

This largely 13th-century priory church was not designated a cathedral until 1905. It has a fine medieval choir.

Exploring Churches

The church spires that puncture London's skyline span nearly a thousand years of the city's history. They form an index to many of the events and periods that have shaped the city – the Norman Conquest (1066); the Great Fire of London (1666); the great restoration that followed it; the Regency period; the confidence of the Victorian era; and the devastation of World War II. Each has had its effect on the churches, many designed by the most influential architects of their times.



St Paul's, Covent Garden

Medieval Churches

The most famous old church to survive the Great Fire of 1666 is the superb 13th-century **Westminster Abbey**, the Coronation church, with its tombs of British monarchs and heroes. Less well known are the well-hidden Norman church of **St Bartholomew-the-Great**, London's oldest church (1123); the circular **Temple Church**, founded in 1160 by the Knights Templar; and **Southwark Cathedral**, set

amid Victorian railway lines and warehouses. **Chelsea Old Church** is a charming village church near the river.

Churches by Jones

Inigo Jones (1573–1652) was Shakespeare's contemporary, and his works were almost as revolutionary as the great dramatist's. Jones's Classical churches of the 1620s and 1630s shocked a public used to conservative Gothic finery. By far the best-known is **St Paul's Church**

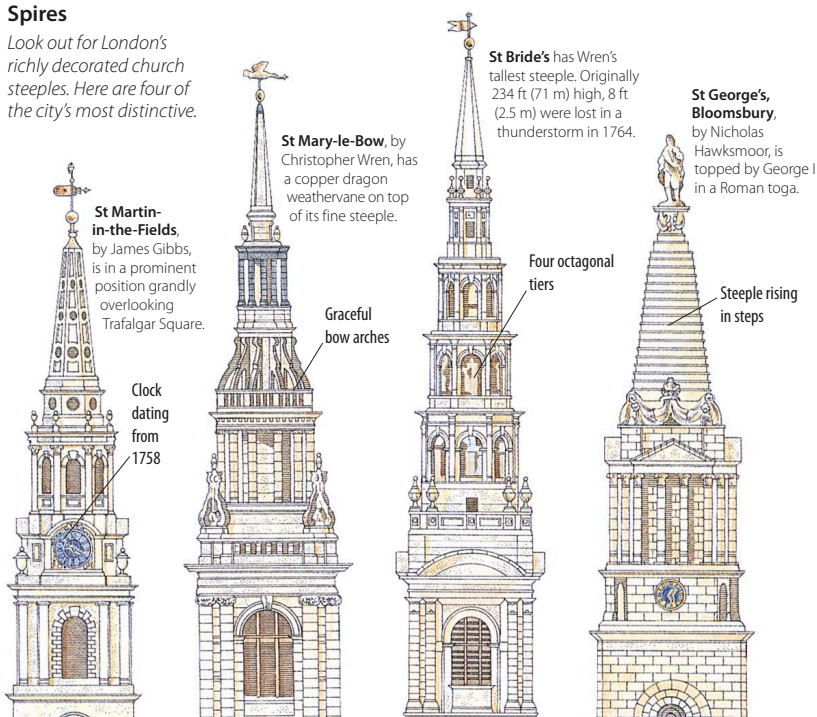
of the 1630s, the centrepiece of Jones's Italian-style piazza in Covent Garden. **Queen's Chapel** was built in 1623 for Queen Henrietta Maria, the Catholic wife of Charles I. It was the first Classical church in England and has a magnificent interior but is, unfortunately, usually closed to the public.

Churches by Hawksmoor

Nicholas Hawksmoor (1661–1736) was Wren's most talented pupil, and his

Spires

Look out for London's richly decorated church steeples. Here are four of the city's most distinctive.



churches are among the finest Baroque buildings to be found in Britain.

St George's, Bloomsbury (1716–31) has an unusual centralized plan and a pyramid steeple topped by a statue of King George I. **St Mary Woolnoth** is a tiny jewel of 1716–27, and further east, **Christ Church, Spitalfields** is a Baroque tour-de-force of 1714–29.

Among Hawksmoor's East End churches are the stunning **St Anne's, Limehouse** and **St Alfege**, of 1714–17, which is across the river in Greenwich. The tower on this temple-like church was added later by John James in 1730.



St Anne's, Limehouse

Churches by Gibbs

James Gibbs (1682–1754) was more conservative than his Baroque contemporaries, such as Hawksmoor, and he also kept his distance from the Neo-Classical trend so popular after 1720. His idiosyncratic London churches were enormously influential. **St Mary-le-Strand** (1714–17) is an island church which appears to be sailing down the Strand. The radical design of **St Martin-in-the-Fields** (1722–6) predates its setting, Trafalgar Square, by a hundred years.

Regency Churches

The end of the Napoleonic Wars in 1815 brought a flurry of church building. The need for

Christopher Wren

Sir Christopher Wren (1632–1723) played an integral part in the restoration of London after the Great Fire of 1666. He devised a new city plan, replacing the narrow streets with wide avenues radiating from piazzas. His plan was rejected, but he was commissioned to build 52 new churches; 31 have survived various threats of demolition and the bombs of World War II, although six are shells. Wren's great masterpiece is the massive



St Paul's, while nearby is splendid **St Stephen Walbrook**, his domed church of 1672–7. Other landmarks are **St Bride's**, off Fleet Street, said to have inspired the traditional shape of wedding cakes,

St Mary-le-Bow in Cheapside and **St Magnus the Martyr** in Lower Thames Street. Wren's own favourite was **St James's, Piccadilly** (1683–4). Smaller gems are **St Clement Danes**, Strand (1680–82), and **St James, Garlickhythe** (1674–87).

churches in London's new suburbs fused with a Greek Revival. The results may lack the exuberance of Hawksmoor, but they have an austere elegance of their own. **All Souls, Langham Place** (1822–4), at the north end of Regent Street, was built by the Prince Regent's favourite, John Nash, who was ridiculed at the time for its unusual combination of design styles. Also worth visiting is **St Pancras**, a Greek Revival church of 1819–22, which is typical of the period.

Victorian Churches

London has some of the finest 19th-century churches in Europe. Grand and colourful, their riotous decoration is in marked contrast to the chaste Neo-Classicism of the preceding Regency era. Perhaps the best of the capital's late Victorian churches is **Westminster**



Brompton Oratory

Cathedral, a stunningly rich, Italianate Catholic cathedral built in 1895–1903, with architecture by J F Bentley and *Stations of the Cross* reliefs by Eric Gill. **Brompton Oratory** is a grand Baroque revival, based on a church in Rome and filled with magnificent furnishings from all over Catholic Europe.

Where to Find the Churches

All Souls, Langham Place p229
Brompton Oratory p208
Chelsea Old Church p200
Christ Church, Spitalfields p174
Queen's Chapel p97
St Alfege Church p244
St Anne's, Limehouse p253
St Bartholomew-the-Great p169
St Bride's p143
St Clement Danes p142
St George's, Bloomsbury p132
St James, Garlickhythe p148
St James's Church, Piccadilly p94
St Magnus the Martyr p156
St Martin-in-the-Fields p106
St Mary-le-Bow p151
St Mary-le-Strand p122
St Mary Woolnoth p149
St Pancras Parish Church p134
St Paul's Cathedral pp152–5
St Paul's Church p118
St Stephen Walbrook p150
Southwark Cathedral p180
Temple Church p143
Westminster Abbey pp80–83
Westminster Cathedral p85

London's Best: Parks and Gardens

Since medieval times, London has had large expanses of green. Some of these, such as Hampstead Heath, were originally common land, where smallholders could graze their animals. Others, such as Richmond Park and Holland Park, were royal hunting grounds or the gardens of large houses; several still have formal features dating from those times. Today you can cross much of central London by walking from St James's Park in central London to Kensington Gardens in the west. Purpose-built parks, like Battersea, and the botanic garden at Kew appeared later.



Hyde Park

The Serpentine is one of the highlights of a park which also boasts restaurants, an art gallery and Speakers' Corner.

Hampstead Heath

This breezy, vast, open space is located in north London. Nearby Parliament Hill offers views of St Paul's, the City and the West End.



Kew Gardens

The world's premier botanic garden is a must for anyone with an interest in plants, exotic or mundane.



Kensington Gardens

This plaque is from the Italian Garden, one of the features of this elegant park.

Kensington
and Holland
Park

South
Kensington and
Knightsbridge

Holland Park

The former grounds of one of London's grandest homes are now its most romantic park.



Richmond Park

The biggest royal park in London remains largely unspoiled, with magnificent river views and a thriving deer population.



0 km 1
0 miles 0.5



Regent's Park

In this civilized park, surrounded by fine Regency buildings, you can stroll around the rose garden, visit the open-air theatre, or simply sit and admire the view.

Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park

Beautifully landscaped wildflower gardens and children's play areas make the former Olympic site an appealing public space.



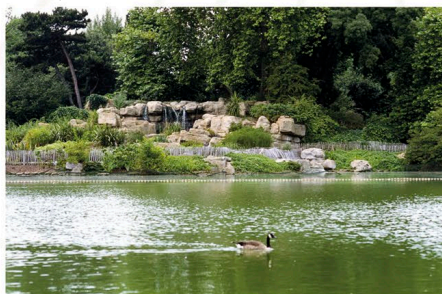
Greenwich Park

Its focal point is the National Maritime Museum, well worth a visit for its architecture as well as its exhibits. There are also fine views.

Green Park

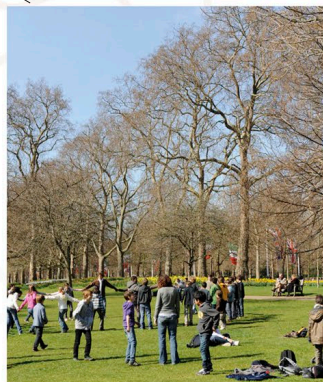
Its leafy paths are favoured by early-morning joggers from the Mayfair hotels.

Greenwich and Blackheath



Battersea Park

Visitors can hire a rowing boat for the best view of the Victorian landscaping around the lake.



St James's Park

Located in the heart of the city, this park is a popular escape for office workers and has an abundance of wildfowl.

Exploring Parks and Gardens

London has one of the the world's greenest city centres, full of tree-filled squares and grassy parks. From the intimacy of the Chelsea Physic Garden to the wild, open spaces of Hampstead Heath, every London park has its own charm and character. For those looking for a specific outdoor attraction – such as sports, wildlife or flowers – here are some of the most interesting London parks.

Flower Gardens

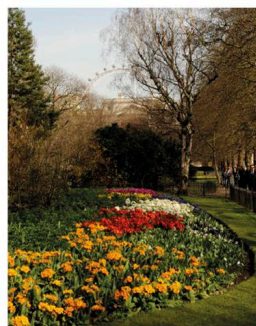
The British are famed for their gardens and love of flowers and this is reflected in several of London's parks. Really keen gardeners will find all they ever wanted to know at **Kew Gardens** and the **Chelsea Physic Garden**, which is especially strong on herbs. Closer to the centre of town, **St James's Park** boasts some spectacular flowerbeds, filled with bulbs and bedding plants, which are changed every season. **Hyde Park** sports a magnificent show of daffodils and crocuses in the spring, while London's best rose garden is Queen Mary's in **Regent's**

Park. Kensington Gardens' flower walk has an exemplary English mixed border. There is also a delightful small 17th-century garden at the **Museum of Garden History**.

Battersea Park also has a charming flower garden. Indoor gardeners should head to the **Barbican Centre's** well-stocked conservatory.

Formal Gardens

The most spectacular formal garden is at **Hampton Court**, which has a network of gardens from different periods, starting with Tudor. The gardens at **Chiswick House** remain dotted with



Colourful flowerbeds at St James's Park

their 18th-century statuary and pavilions. Other restored gardens include 17th-century **Ham House**, and **Osterley Park**, whose 18th-century layout was retraced through the art of dowsing. **Fenton House** has a really fine walled garden; **Kenwood**, with its woodland area, is less formal. The sunken garden at **Kensington Palace** has a formal layout; **Holland Park** has flowers around its statues.

Restful Corners

London's squares are cool, shady retreats, but many are reserved for key-holders, usually residents of the surrounding houses. Of those open to all, **Russell Square** is the largest and most secluded. **Berkeley Square** is open but barren.

Green Park offers shady trees and deck chairs, right in central London. The Inns of Court provide some pleasant havens: **Gray's Inn** gardens, **Middle Temple** gardens and **Lincoln's Inn Fields**. **Grosvenor Square** is one of London's oldest Georgian



St James's Park, beautiful in springtime

Green London

In Greater London, there are 1,700 parks covering a total of 67 sq miles (174 sq km). This land is home to some 2,000 types of plant and 100 bird species. Trees help the city to breathe, manufacturing oxygen from the polluted air. Here are just a few of the species you are most likely to see in London.



The London plane, now the most common tree in London, grows along many streets.



The English oak grows all over Europe. The Royal Navy used to build ships from its wood.

squares, while **Soho Square** offers welcome respite from nearby busy Oxford Street.

Music in Summer

Stretching out on the grass or in a deckchair to listen to a band is a British tradition. Military and other bands give regular concerts throughout the summer at **St James's** and **Regent's Parks** and also at **Parliament Hill Fields**. The concert schedule will usually be found posted up close to the bandstand in the park.

Open-air summer festivals of pop and classical music are held in several parks (see p345).

Wildlife

There is a large and well-fed collection of ducks and other water birds, even including a few pelicans, in **St James's Park**. Duck lovers will also appreciate **Regent's**, **Hyde** and **Battersea Parks**, as well as **Hampstead Heath**. Deer roam in **Richmond** and **Greenwich Parks**. Captive animals can be found at **London Zoo**, in **Regent's Park**, as well as in aviaries or aquariums located at several parks and gardens, including **Kew Gardens** and **Syon House**.



Geese in St James's Park



The common beech has a close relation, the copper beech, with reddish-purple leaves.

Historic Cemeteries

In the late 1830s, private cemeteries were established around London to ease the pressure on the overcrowded and unhealthy burial grounds of the inner city. Today some of these, notably **Highgate Cemetery**, **Kensal Green Cemetery** (Harrow Road, W10) and **Brompton Cemetery** (Fulham Road, SW10), are worth visiting for their Victorian monuments. **Bunhill Fields** is an earlier burial site, first used during the plague of 1665.



Kensal Green cemetery



Boating pond at Regent's Park

Sports

Most parks have tennis courts, which normally have to be reserved in advance. Rowing boats may be hired at **Hyde**, **Regent's** and **Battersea Parks**, among others. There are athletics tracks at both **Battersea Park** and **Parliament Hill**. The public may swim at the ponds on **Hampstead Heath** and in the Serpentine in **Hyde Park**. Cycling is not universally encouraged in London's parks, but **Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park** is an exception. Sporting events are held here regularly and the Aquatics Centre is open to the public.

Where to Find the Parks and Gardens

Barbican Centre p172
 Battersea Park p257
 Berkeley Square p277
 Bunhill Fields p172
 Chelsea Physic Garden p201
 Chiswick House pp264–5
 Fenton House p236
 Gray's Inn p145
 Green Park p97
 Greenwich Park p247
 Grosvenor Square p101
 Ham House p258
 Hampstead Heath p238
 Hampton Court pp260–63
 Highgate Cemetery p252
 Holland Park p222
 Hyde Park p213
 Kensington Gardens pp212–13
 Kensington Palace p212
 Kenwood House pp238–9
 Kew Gardens pp266–7
 Lincoln's Inn Fields p141
 London Zoo p231
 Middle Temple p143
 Museum of Garden History p194
 Osterley Park p259
 Parliament Hill pp238–9
 Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park pp254–5
 Regent's Park p228
 Richmond Park p258
 Russell Square p132
 St James's Park p96
 Soho Square p112
 Syon House p259



The horse chestnut's hard round fruits are used by children for a game called conkers.

London's Best: Ceremonies

Much of London's rich inheritance of tradition and ceremony centres on royalty. Faithfully enacted today, some of these ceremonies date back to the Middle Ages, when the ruling monarch had absolute power and had to be protected from opponents. This map shows the venues for some of the most important ceremonies in London. For more details on these and other ceremonies turn to pages 58–9; information on all sorts of events taking place in London throughout the year can be found on pages 60–63.



Hyde Park

Royal Salutes are fired by guns of the King's Troop Royal Horse Artillery on royal anniversaries and ceremonial occasions.



Royal Hospital Chelsea

In 1651 Charles II hid from Parliamentary forces in an oak tree. On Oak Apple Day, Chelsea Pensioners decorate his statue with oak leaves and branches.



St James's Palace and Buckingham Palace

Members of the Queen's Life Guard stand at the gates of these two palaces.



Horse Guards

At Trooping the Colour, the most elaborate of London's royal ceremonies, the Queen salutes as a battalion of Foot Guards parades its colours before her.

The City and Embankment

At the Lord Mayor's Show a procession accompanies the newly elected Lord Mayor through the City, with events and celebrations throughout the day.



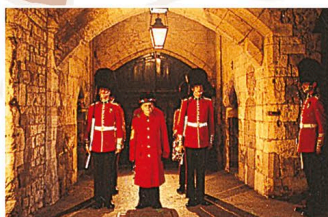
The Thames

The river is the venue for pageants and firework displays on ceremonial occasions, as well as the annual University Boat Race between Oxford and Cambridge.



Tower of London

In the nightly Ceremony of the Keys, a Yeoman Warder locks the gates. A military escort ensures the keys are not stolen.



Houses of Parliament

The Queen travels to Westminster in the Irish State Coach for the annual State Opening of Parliament.

The Cenotaph

On Remembrance Sunday the Queen pays homage to the nation's war dead.



Attending London's Ceremonies

Royalty and commerce are the two principal sources of London's rich calendar of ceremonial events. Quaint and old-fashioned these events may be, but what may seem arcane ritual has real historical meaning – many of the capital's ceremonies originated in the Middle Ages.

Royal Ceremonies

Although the Queen's role is now largely symbolic, the Guard at Buckingham Palace still patrols the palace grounds. The impressive ceremony of **Changing the Guard** – dazzling uniforms, shouted commands, military music – consists of the Old Guard, which forms up in the palace forecourt, going off duty and handing over to the New Guard. The Guard comprises three officers and 40 men when the Queen is in residence, but only three officers and 31 men when she is away. The ceremony takes place in front of the palace. In another change-over ceremony, the Queen's Life Guards travel daily from Hyde Park Barracks to Horse Guards Parade.

Member of the Queen's Life Guards



The **Ceremony of the Keys** at the Tower of London is one of the capital's most historic ceremonies. After each of the Tower gates has been locked, the last post is sounded by a trumpeter before the keys are secured in the Queen's House.

The Tower of London and Hyde Park are also the scene of **Royal Salutes**, which take place on birthdays and other occasions throughout the year. At such times 41 rounds are fired in Hyde Park at noon, and 62 rounds at the Tower at 1pm. The spectacle in Hyde Park is a stirring one as 71 horses and six 13-pounder cannons swirl into place and the roar of the guns begins.

The combination of pageantry, colour and music makes the annual **Trooping the Colour** the high point of London's ceremonial year. The Queen takes the Royal Salute, and after her troops have marched past, she leads them to Buckingham Palace where a second march past takes place. The best place to watch this spectacle is from the Horse Guards Parade side of St James's Park. Bands of the Household Cavalry and the Foot Guards stage the ceremony of **Beating Retreat**



A Queen's Guard in winter

at Horse Guards Parade. This takes place annually on two successive evenings in June, leading up to Trooping the Colour. The spectacular **State Opening of Parliament**, when the Queen opens the annual parliamentary session in the House of Lords (usually in May), is not open to the general public, although it is televised. The huge royal procession, which moves from Buckingham Palace to Westminster, is, however, a magnificent sight, with the

Queen travelling in the highly ornate Irish State Coach drawn by four horses.

Military Ceremonies

The Cenotaph in Whitehall is the setting for a ceremony held on **Remembrance Sunday** to give thanks to those who died fighting in any conflict from World War I onwards.

National Navy Day is commemorated by a parade down the Mall, followed by a service held at Nelson's Column in Trafalgar Square.



Royal Salute, Tower of London



Trooping the Colour



Silent Change ceremony at Guildhall for the new Lord Mayor

Ceremonies in the City

November is the focus of the City of London's ceremonial year. At the **Silent Change** in Guildhall, the outgoing Lord Mayor hands over symbols of office to the new Mayor in a virtually wordless ceremony. The following day sees the rumbustious **Lord Mayor's Show**. Accompanying the Lord Mayor in his gold state coach, a procession of bands, decorated floats and military detachments makes its way through the City, past Mansion House to the Law Courts, and back again along the Embankment. A day of events, including a river pageant, culminates in an evening firework display.

Many of the ceremonies that take place in the City are linked to the activities of the Livery Companies, and often mark key dates in the church calendar. Not all are open to the public. Those that are include the Worshipful Companies of **Vintners' and Distillers'** annual celebration of the wine harvest.

Name-Day Ceremonies

Every 21 May **King Henry VI**, who was murdered in the Tower of London in 1471, is still remembered by the members of his two famous foundations, Eton College and King's College, Cambridge,

who meet for a ceremony at the Wakefield Tower where he was killed. **Oak Apple Day** commemorates Charles II's lucky escape from the Parliamentary forces of Oliver Cromwell in 1651. The King managed to conceal himself

in a hollow oak tree, and today Chelsea Pensioners honour his memory by decorating his statue at the Royal Hospital Chelsea with oak leaves and branches. On 18 December, the lexicographer **Dr Johnson** is commemorated in an annual service held at Westminster Abbey.



Lord Mayor's chain of office

Informal Ceremonies

Each July, six guildsmen from the Company of Watermen compete for the prize in **Doggett's Coat and Badge Race**. In autumn, the **Pearly Kings and Queens**, representatives of working-class culture, meet at St Mary-le-Bow. In March children are given oranges and lemons at the **Oranges and Lemons service** at St Clement Danes church. In February, clowns take part in a service for **Joseph Grimaldi** (1779–1837) at the Holy Trinity Church in Dalston, E8.



Pearly King

Where to Find the Ceremonies

Beating Retreat

Horse Guards Parade *p84*, two successive evenings in June.

Ceremony of the Keys

Tower of London *pp158–61*, 9:30pm daily. Tickets from the Tower, but book well in advance.

Changing the Guard

Buckingham Palace *pp98–9*, Apr–Jul: 11:30am daily; Aug–Mar: 11am Mon, Wed, Fri, Sun. Horse Guards, Whitehall *p84*, 11am Mon–Sat, 10am Sun.

Doggett's Coat and Badge Race

From London Bridge to Cadogan Pier, Chelsea, July.

Dr Johnson Memorial

Westminster Abbey *pp80–83*, 18 Dec.

Joseph Grimaldi Memorial

Holy Trinity Church, Dalston E8, 7 Feb.

King Henry VI Memorial

Wakefield Tower, Tower of London *pp158–61*, 21 May.

Lord Mayor's Show

The City, second Sat in Nov.

Navy Day

Trafalgar Sq *p106*, 21 Oct.

Oak Apple Day

Royal Hospital Chelsea *p201*, Thu after 29 May.

Oranges and Lemons Service

St Clement Danes *p142*, March.

Pearly Kings and Queens Harvest Festival

St Mary-le-Bow *p151*, autumn.

Remembrance Sunday

Canotaph *p78*, Sun nearest 11 Nov.

Royal Salutes

Hyde Park *p213*, royal anniversaries and other state occasions.

Silent Change

Guildhall *p163*, second Fri in Nov.

State Opening of Parliament

Houses of Parliament *pp76–7*, May. Procession from Buckingham Palace to Westminster.

Trooping the Colour

Horse Guards *p84*, second Sat in Jun (rehearsals on previous two Sats). Tickets from Household Division, Horse Guards.

Vintners' and Distillers' Wine Harvest

St Olave's Church, Hart St EC3, second Tue in Oct.

LONDON THROUGH THE YEAR

Springtime in London carries an almost tangible air of a city waking up to longer days and outdoor pursuits. The cheerful yellow of daffodils studs the parks and Londoners turn out for their first jog of the year, puffing in the wake of serious runners training for the London Marathon. As spring turns into summer, the royal parks reach their full glory as they, along with many other open spaces, host a season of musical festivals, open-air

theatre, cinema screenings and summer food fiestas. As autumn takes hold, Londoners' thoughts turn to afternoons in museums, followed by tea and cake. The year draws to a close with Guy Fawkes fireworks, then Christmas markets and outdoor ice rinks. The official visitor organization Visit London, www.visitlondon.com (see p358), and the listings magazines (see p338) have details of seasonal events.

Spring

The weather during the spring months may be raw, and an umbrella is a necessary precaution. Around Easter, Oxford and Cambridge universities compete in their annual boat race along the Thames, and marathon runners pound the streets. Footballers close their season in May with the FA Cup Final, while cricketers don their sweaters to begin theirs. Meanwhile, painters hope to have their works accepted by the Royal Academy.

March

Head of the River Race (*Sat mid-Mar or early Apr*). More than 400 teams row from Mortlake to Putney in a timed race on the ebb tide. A couple of weeks later, the more famous **Oxford and Cambridge boat race** (*Sat late Mar or early Apr*) takes place over the same route in the opposite direction. Riverside viewing spots and nearby pubs teem with spectators. **Spring Equinox celebration** (21 Mar), Tower Hill EC3. Historic pagan ceremony with modern-day druids.

Easter

Good Friday and **Easter Monday** are public holidays. **Easter services** held at all London churches, including Westminster Abbey (see pp80–83). Look out for kids' activities, such as Easter egg hunts, around the city, including at Kew Gardens (see pp266–7) and Greenwich (see pp240–47).



Runners in the London Marathon pound the city's streets passing Tower Bridge

April

Queen's Birthday gun salutes (21 Apr), Hyde Park, Tower of London (see p58). **London Marathon** (*Sun in Apr or May*). Around 38,000 elite and novice athletes run the 42.2 km (26.2 mile) course from Blackheath to the Mall. Prime viewing spots at the start and finish and on Tower

Bridge are staked out hours before the race; canny spectators find a place near one of the Docklands Light Railway stations or join the crowds on the Embankment to cheer the now-weary runners on to the end.

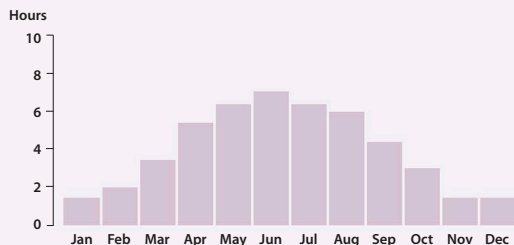
May

First and last Mon are public holidays. **FA Cup Final**, football season's climax. **Beating the Bounds** (*Ascension Day*), throughout the City. Children, clergy and locals from the City parishes use sticks to "beat" buildings that mark the parish boundaries. **Oak Apple Day** (29 May), Royal Hospital Chelsea (see p59). **Covent Garden May Fayre and Puppet Festival** (*mid-May*), St Paul's Church, Covent Garden (see p118). **Chelsea Flower Show** (5 days in late May), Royal Hospital Chelsea. London's biggest, most spectacular horticultural event. **State Opening of Parliament** (see p58).



The Holy Cross being carried through the streets during the Good Friday procession

Average Daily Hours of Sunshine



Sunshine Chart

London's longest and hottest days fall between May and August. In the height of summer, daylight hours can extend from well before 5am to after 9pm. Daytime is much shorter in the winter, but London can be stunning in the winter sunshine.

Summer

London's summer season is packed with indoor and outdoor events. The weather can be unreliable, but unless you are very unlucky there should be enough fine days to enjoy the great outdoors. There are traditional events, such as the Wimbledon tennis championships and the cricket test matches at Lord's and the Oval, as well as innovative arts seasons, such as those at the Southbank, and outdoor music festivals. Well out of view of the general public and prying photographers, the Queen holds garden parties for favoured subjects in the grounds of Buckingham Palace. The August public holiday weekend is marked by the Notting Hill Carnival, London's biggest street celebration.

June

Beating Retreat (see p58).

Coronation Day gun salutes (2 Jun), Hyde Park and Tower of London (see p58). **Art Antiques London** (mid-Jun), Kensington Gardens. Top dealers gather in a purpose-built pavilion opposite the Royal Albert Hall (see p209). **Trooping the Colour**, Horse Guards Parade (see p58). **Duke of Edinburgh's Birthday gun salutes** (10 Jun), Hyde Park and Tower of London (see p58). **Wimbledon Lawn Tennis Championships** (2 weeks in late Jun). The only major tournament held on grass. **Cricket test match**, Lord's Cricket Ground. **Open-air theatre season** (throughout the summer), stages in Regent's Park and Holland Park (see



Revellers at Notting Hill Carnival

p340). **Open-air concerts**, Kenwood, Hampstead Heath, Kew (see p345). Parks in and just outside the city host one-day music festivals and outdoor gigs. **Southbank summer season** (Jun–Sep). The Southbank Centre (see p344) hosts themed festivals including comedy and cabaret events. **Spitalfields Summer Festival** (Jun). Two weeks of classical concerts and talks at Christ Church (see p174), St Leonard's (see p175) and other nearby venues. **City of London Festival** (late Jun–mid-July),

various City venues. Arts and music festival with concerts in some of London's most beautiful churches.

July

Hampton Court Flower Show, Hampton Court Palace (see pp260–63). **Henry Wood Promenade Concerts (The Proms)** (late Jul–Sep), Royal Albert Hall (see p209). **Royal Academy of Arts Summer Exhibition** (Jun–Aug), Piccadilly (see p94). **Doggett's Coat and Badge Race**, a historic river-rowing contest between Thames watermen.

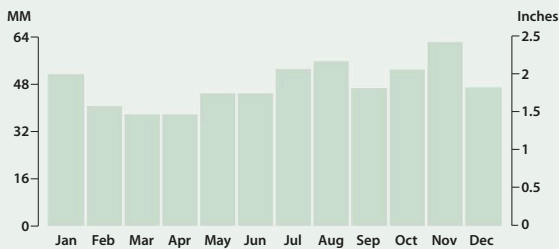
August

Screenings at Somerset House (2 weeks in Aug) (see p121). If the weather holds, this is the most glorious setting for viewing classic films. The **last Monday** in August is a public holiday. **Notting Hill Carnival** (late Aug holiday weekend). An internationally famous and well-attended Caribbean carnival that takes place throughout the area (see p223). Sunday is children's day while Monday is for adults – both days feature huge crowds, spectacular costumes and DJ sets.



Parading down the Mall for the finale of Trooping the Colour

Average Monthly Rainfall



Rainfall Chart

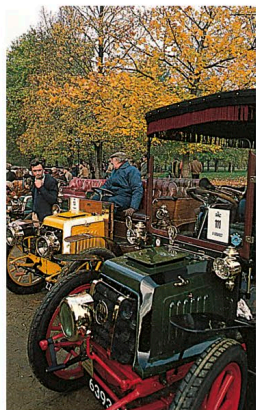
London's average monthly rainfall remains much the same throughout the year. July and August, the capital's warmest months, are also two of its wettest. Rain is less likely in spring, but visitors should be prepared for a shower at any time of year.

Autumn

There is a sense of purpose about London in autumn. The build-up to the busiest shopping season and the start of the academic year inject some life into the colder months. Halloween, something of an import from the US, is now celebrated with costume parties and themed pub and club nights. A more traditional British night of revelry follows on 5 November, when bonfires and fireworks displays commemorate the failed conspiracy, led by Guy Fawkes in 1605, to blow up the Palace of Westminster. A few days later, the soldiers of conflicts from World War I onwards are honoured at a ceremony held at the Cenotaph in Whitehall.

September

Totally Thames (*Sep*). This Thames-themed festival features a month of events alongside



London-to-Brighton veteran car run



The season of promenade concerts reaches its climax on the Last Night of the Proms

and on the river between Westminster Bridge and Southwark Cathedral. **Last Night of the Proms** (*mid-Sep*), Royal Albert Hall (*see p209*). Entertaining the masses with rousing classical hits and favourite British patriotic pieces. An open-air concert, "Proms in the Park", is held simultaneously in Hyde Park.

October

Pearly Harvest Festival (*first Sun*). The festival begins at Guildhall Yard, from where a parade of Pearly Kings and Queens makes its way to St-Mary-le-Bow Church for the Harvest Festival service (*see p151*). **Vintners' and Distillers' Wine Harvest** (*see p59*).

November

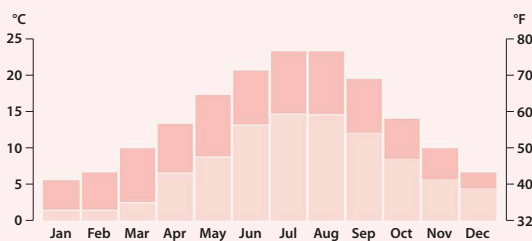
Guy Fawkes Night (*5 Nov*). Listings magazines give

details of firework displays taking place across the city (*see p338*); Alexandra Palace hosts a particularly excellent display. **Remembrance Day Service** (*see p58*). **Lord Mayor's Show** (*see p59*). **London to Brighton** veteran car rally (*first Sun*). **Christmas lights** (*late Nov–6 Jan*). The West End, especially Regent Street, lights up during the festive season.



Fireworks explode on Guy Fawkes Night

Average Monthly Temperature



Temperature Chart

The chart shows the average minimum and maximum temperatures for each month. Top temperatures averaging 22°C (75°F) belie London's reputation for year-round chilliness, although November through to February can be extremely cold and icy.

Winter

Some of the most striking images of London are drawn from winter – paintings of frost fairs in the 17th and 18th centuries, when the River Thames froze over completely, and Claude Monet's views of the river and its bridges. For centuries thick "pea-souper" fogs were an inevitable part of winter, until coal-burning in open grates was banned. Christmas lights twinkle everywhere – from the West End shopping streets to the Christmas markets held in royal parks and along the South Bank. Seasonal menus feature roast turkey, mince pies and Christmas pudding. Traditional shows in theatres include boisterous family pantomimes with their customary cross-dressing between the sexes (*see p340*) and popular ballets such as *Swan Lake* and *The Nutcracker*.

December

Oxford v Cambridge rugby union match Twickenham. **Spitalfields Music Winter Festival** (mid-Dec), Christ Church and other venues (*see p174*). **London International Horse Show** (late Dec), Olympia. Equestrian competition. **Christmas markets and ice**

Public Holidays

New Year's Day (1 Jan); **Good Friday**; **Easter Monday**; **May Day** (first Monday in May); **Whit Monday** (last Monday in May); **August Bank Holiday** (last Monday in Aug); **Christmas Day and Boxing Day** (25–26 Dec).



Winter in the picturesque gardens of Kensington Palace

rink Winter Wonderland in Hyde Park (*see p213*) is a vast festive market and fairground, with an ice rink, beer hall and German-style stalls. The South Bank has a Christmas market too, while Somerset House (*see p121*) has a great skating rink.

Christmas, New Year

25–26 Dec and 1 Jan are public holidays. There is no public transport on Christmas Day.

Carol services (*leading up to Christmas*), Trafalgar Square (*see p106*), St Paul's (*see pp152–5*), Westminster Abbey (*see pp80–83*), St Martin-in-the-Fields (*see p106*) and many other churches. **Turkey auction** (24 Dec), Smithfield Market (*see p168*). **Christmas Day swim** Serpentine, Hyde Park (*see p213*). **New Year's Eve** (31 Dec) fireworks on the Thames, centred on the London Eye (*see p193*). Tickets must be purchased in advance for riverside viewing spots (www.London.gov.uk).

January

Sales (*see p317*). **New Year's Day Parade** ends at Parliament Square (*see p78*). **International Mime Festival** (late Jan), various venues. **Charles I Commemoration** (last Sun), procession from St James's Palace (*see p95*) to Banqueting House (*see p84*). **Chinese New Year** (late Jan–mid-Feb), Chinatown (*see p112*).

February

Queen's Accession gun salutes (6 Feb), 41-gun salute, Hyde Park; 62-gun salute, Tower of London (*see p58*). **Pancake races** (Shrove Tue), Brick Lane (*see p174*), Guildhall (*see p163*) and other locations.



Christmas illuminations in Regent Street

A River View of London

Cruising down the Thames is one of the most interesting ways to experience London. Having served as the city's main commercial artery from Roman times to the 20th century, the river is packed with historical references, including the reconstruction of the Elizabethan Globe Theatre, royal palaces and parks, historic bridges and decommissioned power stations. Highlights also include excellent views of the ever-changing London skyline:

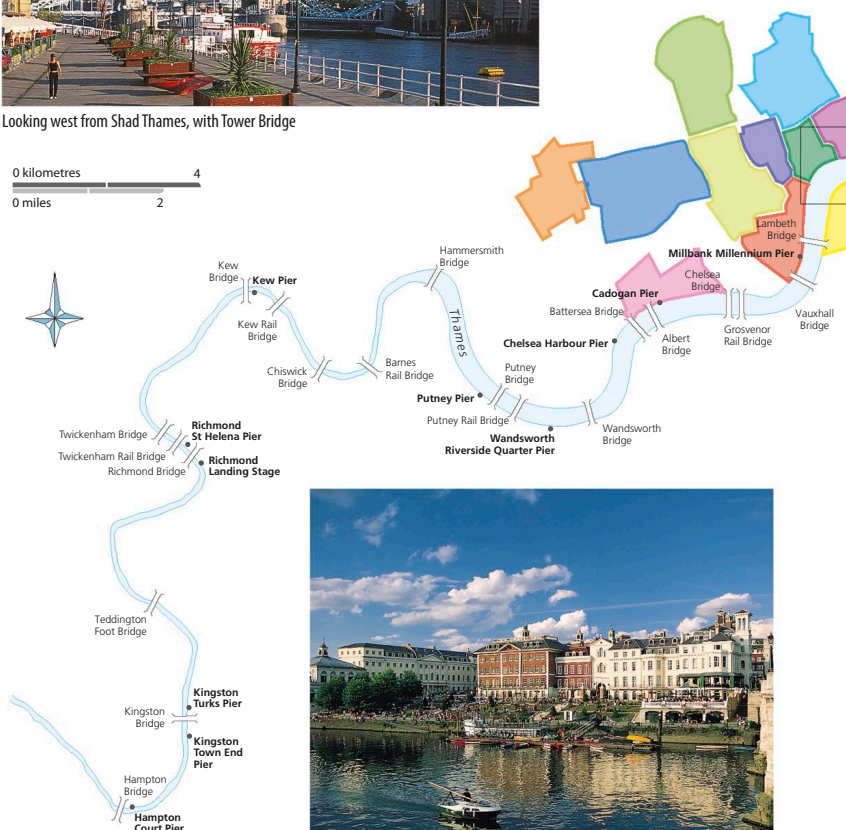
look out for the Shard, the Gherkin and the London Eye.

Passenger boat services cover about 50 kilometres (30 miles) of the Thames, from Hampton Court in the west to the Thames Barrier in the east. The most popular and best served section runs through the heart of the city from Westminster to Tower Bridge. Often accompanied by informative and witty commentary, a cruise along this fascinating stretch of the Thames should not be missed.



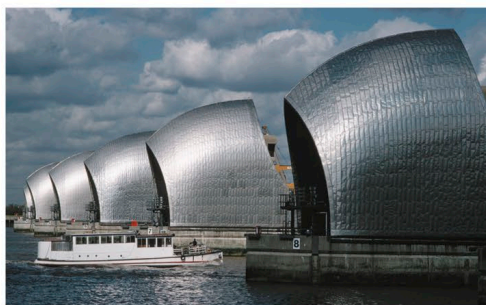
Looking west from Shad Thames, with Tower Bridge

0 kilometres 4
0 miles 2



Richmond

Crowds enjoy a sunny day by Richmond St Helena Pier.

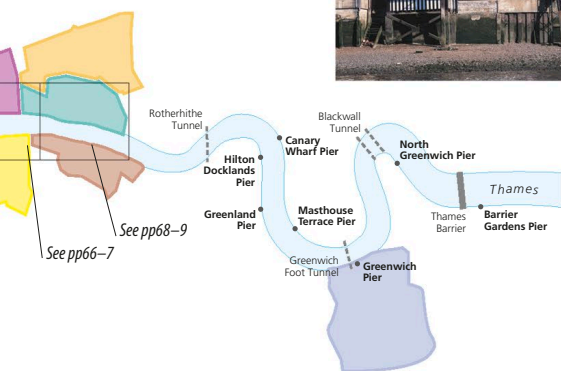


The Thames Barrier

Completed in 1982, the world's second largest movable flood barrier protects London from rising water levels. The massive steel gates have been raised over 100 times.

Riverside pubs

Beautifully preserved pubs, such as the Prospect of Whitby in Wapping, hug the river's banks.



Cruise Operators

Bateaux London/ Catamaran Cruisers

Tel 020 7695 1800.

bateauxlondon.com

City Cruises

Tel 020 7740 0400.

citycruises.com

Crown River Cruises

Tel 020 7936 2033.

crownrivercruise.co.uk

MBNA Thames Clippers

Tel 020 7001 2200

thamesclippers.com

Thames River Services

Tel 020 7930 4097.

thamesriverservices.co.uk

Turks Launches

Tel 020 8546 2434.

turks.co.uk

WPSA (Westminster

Passenger Service Association [Upriver] Ltd)

Tel 020 7930 2062.

wpsa.co.uk

Cruise Highlights

Most regular services run from April to September, with some routes having winter schedules. During the summer, sailings are frequent from Westminster and Embankment to Greenwich. The main commuter service, the Thames Clipper, runs regular services from Canary Wharf and Chelsea Harbour to the city's main termini (the latter Monday to Friday only), as well as daily trips from the London Eye to Greenwich. You can travel with an Oyster card (see p374) and most other services give a third off the ticket price to Travelcard holders (see p374).

Greenwich (see pp240-47)

Frequent services to Greenwich make a visit to this World Heritage Site, steeped in maritime history, an absolute must.

Operators: Bateaux London/Catamaran Cruisers, City Cruises, Thames River Services.

Piers: Westminster, Waterloo, Embankment, Bankside, Tower.

Duration: 1 hr (Westminster).

Thames Barrier (see p253) Sail between the nine massive piers that raise the steel gates. Cruises to the barrier also pass the O2 Arena, formerly the Millennium Dome.

Operator: Thames River Services.

Piers: Westminster, Greenwich.

Duration: 30 mins (Greenwich).

Kew (see pp266-7) A cruise to Kew leaves the city behind after passing the Battersea Power Station.

Operator: WPSA (upriver only).

Piers: Westminster.

Duration: 1.5 hrs (Westminster).

Hampton Court (see pp260-63)

Arrive at the Tudor bolthole Hampton Court in regal style, but be aware that the round trip from Westminster can take up to eight hours. Consider sailing from one of the piers upriver.

Operator: WPSA (upriver only), Turks Launches.

Piers: Kew, all Richmond and Kingston piers.

Duration: 2 hrs (Kew).

Westminster Bridge to Blackfriars Bridge

Until World War II, this stretch of the Thames marked the division between rich and poor London. On the north bank were the offices, shops, luxury hotels and apartments of Whitehall and the Strand, the Inns of Court and the newspaper district. To the south were smoky factories and slum dwellings. After the war, the Festival of Britain in 1951 started the revival of the South Bank (see pp188–95), which now has some of the capital's most interesting modern buildings.



Shell Mex House

Built in 1931 on the site of the vast Cecil Hotel, this once housed offices for the oil company.

Embankment Gardens

is the site of many open-air concerts held in the bandstand during summer (see p122).

Cleopatra's Needle

was made in ancient Egypt and given to London in 1819 (see p122).



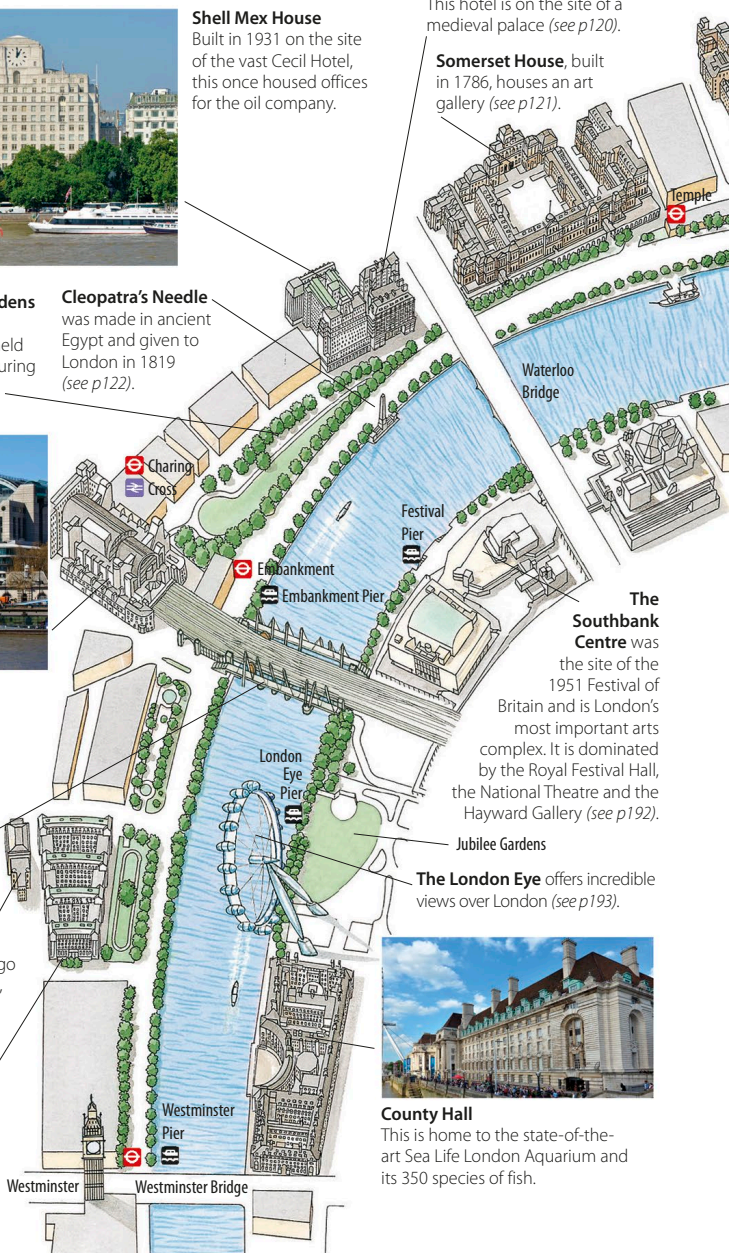
Charing Cross

The rail terminus is encased in a Post-Modernist office complex (see p123).

Hungerford Bridge and Golden Jubilee Footbridges

The Banqueting House is one of Inigo Jones's finest works, built as part of Whitehall Palace (see p84).

The Ministry of Defence is a bulky white fortress completed in the 1950s.



Savoy Hotel

This hotel is on the site of a medieval palace (see p120).

Somerset House, built in 1786, houses an art gallery (see p121).

The Southbank Centre

was the site of the 1951 Festival of Britain and is London's most important arts complex. It is dominated by the Royal Festival Hall, the National Theatre and the Hayward Gallery (see p192).

Jubilee Gardens

The London Eye offers incredible views over London (see p193).



County Hall

This is home to the state-of-the-art Sea Life London Aquarium and its 350 species of fish.



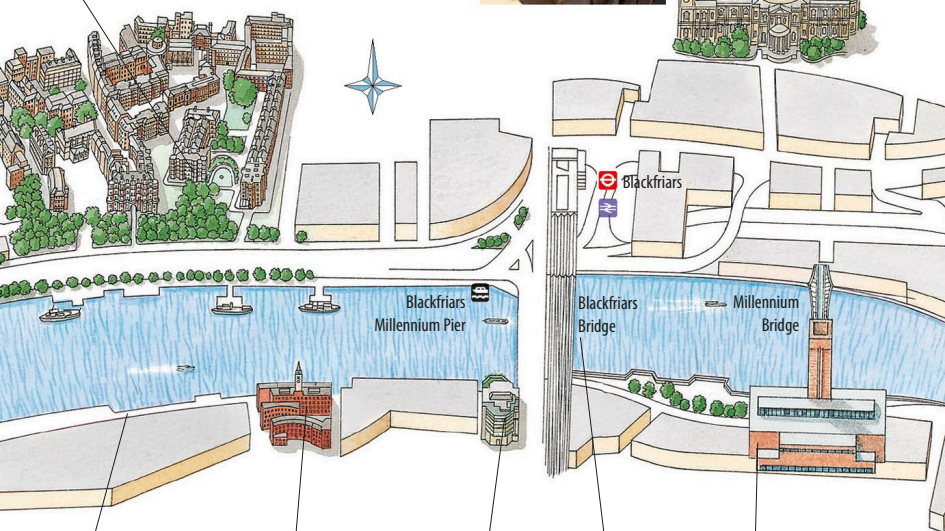
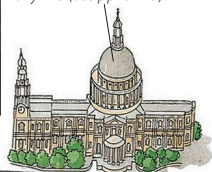
Temple and the Inns of Court

These historic buildings have been the offices of lawyers and barristers for over 500 years (see pp142–3).



St Paul's

Christopher Wren's masterwork, finished in 1708, is still a prominent feature of the London skyline (see pp152–5).



Gabriel's Wharf

Formerly home to warehouses, this site is now packed with restaurants, boutiques and cafés (see p195).



Oxo Tower

The windows were designed to spell the brand name of a popular meat extract.



Doggett's Coat and Badge

The modern pub here is named after the world's oldest rowing race.



Tate Modern is located in the old Bankside power station (see pp182–5).



Blackfriars Bridge

The logo of a former railway company adorns the bridge.

Southwark Bridge to St Katharine Docks

For centuries the stretch just east of London Bridge was the busiest part of the Thames, with ships of all sizes jostling for position to unload at the wharves on both banks. Then, in the 19th century, the construction of the docks to the east eased congestion. Today most landmarks on this section hark back to that commercial past.



Old Billingsgate

This was formerly home to London's main fish market (p156).



Fishmongers' Hall

The hall (1834) of this ancient City guild dominates the view north from London Bridge (p156).

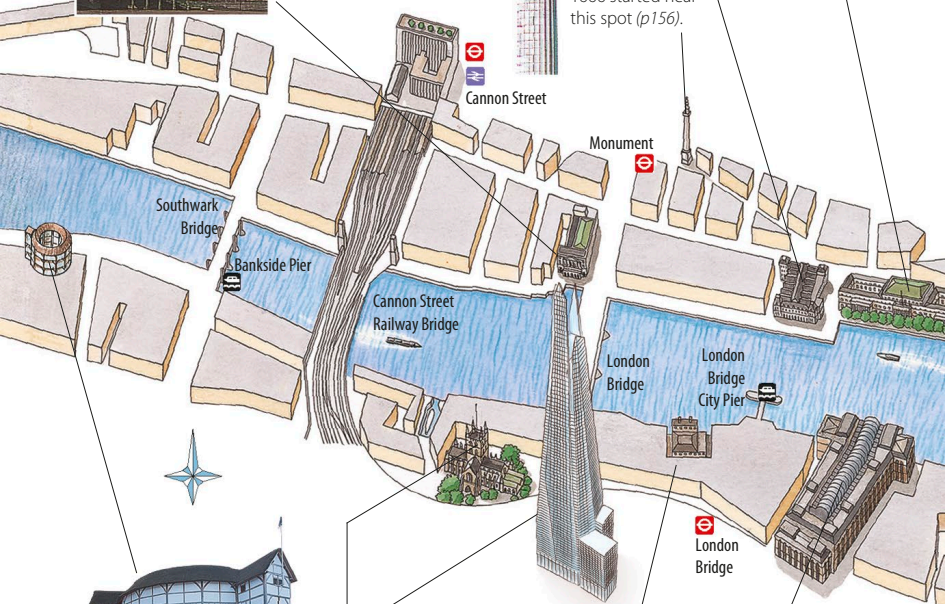


Monument

The Great Fire of 1666 started near this spot (p156).

A Custom House

has been here since 1272. This version dates from 1825.



Shakespeare's Globe

This superb reconstruction of the Elizabethan Globe Theatre hosts performances of Shakespeare's plays (p181).

The Shard is a 306-m (1,004-ft) glass spire of apartments, offices, a hotel, restaurants and, of course, The View.

St Olave's House

A fine Art Deco building shows its best face to the river.



Southwark Cathedral

Parts of this building date from the 12th century.



Hay's Galleria

Originally Hay's Wharf, this warehouse has been covered to house shops and restaurants.



Tower of London

Look out for Traitors' Gate, where prisoners would be taken into the Tower by boat (pp158–61).

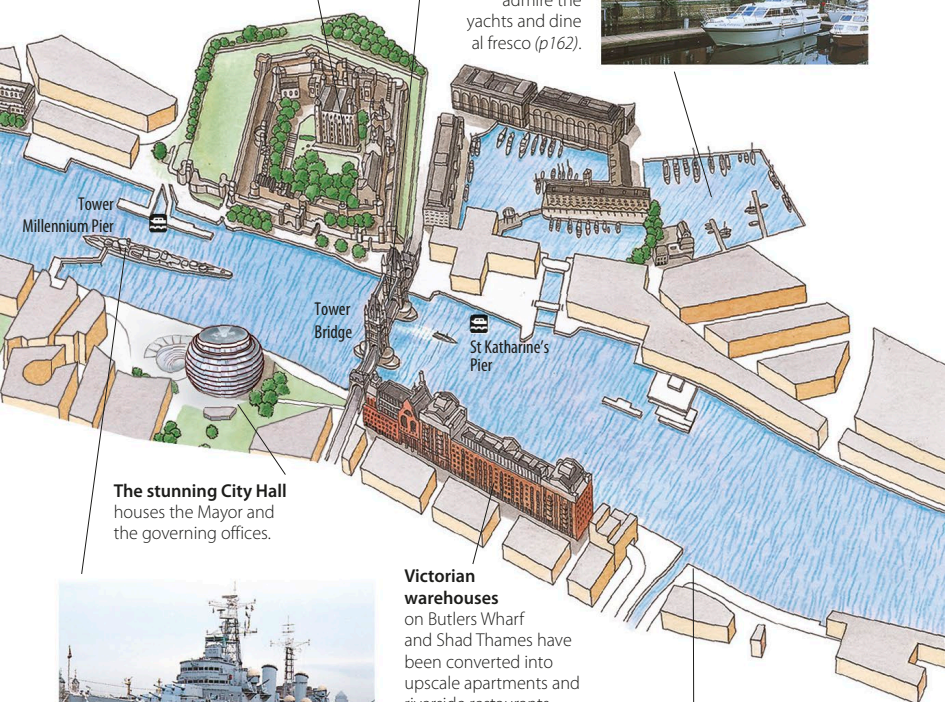


Tower Bridge

It still opens to let tall ships pass, but not as often as it did when cargo vessels came through (p157).

St Katharine Docks

Visitors come to London's only marina to admire the yachts and dine al fresco (p162).



The stunning City Hall houses the Mayor and the governing offices.



HMS Belfast

This World War II cruiser has been a museum since 1971 (p187).

Victorian warehouses

on Butlers Wharf and Shad Thames have been converted into upscale apartments and riverside restaurants.

St Saviour's Dock

A pedestrian bridge takes you over the old dock to more restored warehouses.





LONDON AREA BY AREA

Whitehall and Westminster **72–89**

Piccadilly, Mayfair and
St James's **90–101**

Soho and Trafalgar Square **102–113**

Covent Garden and
the Strand **114–123**

Bloomsbury and Fitzrovia **124–135**

Holborn and the
Inns of Court **136–145**

The City **146–163**

Smithfield and Spitalfields **164–175**

Southwark and Bankside **176–187**

South Bank **188–195**

Chelsea **196–201**

South Kensington and
Knightsbridge **202–217**

Kensington and
Holland Park **218–223**

Regent's Park and
Marylebone **224–231**

Hampstead and Highgate **232–239**

Greenwich and Blackheath **240–247**

Further Afield **248–267**

Six Guided Walks **268–281**



RE: SAUAM: TAT: REQUAM: NOSTRAM: VICTORIAM: DEVIAM

AUGUSTO

WHITEHALL AND WESTMINSTER

Whitehall and Westminster have been at the centre of political and religious power in England for a thousand years. King Canute, who ruled at the beginning of the 11th century, was the first monarch to have a palace on what was then an island in the swampy meeting point of the Thames and its vanished tributary, the Tyburn. Canute built his palace beside the church that, some 50 years later, Edward the

Confessor would enlarge into England's greatest abbey, giving the area its name (a minster is an abbey church). Over the following centuries the offices of state were established in the vicinity. All this is still reflected in Whitehall's heroic statues and massive government buildings. To its north, Trafalgar Square marks the start of the West End entertainment district.

Sights at a Glance

Historic Streets and Buildings

- 1 Houses of Parliament pp76–7
- 2 Big Ben
- 3 Jewel Tower
- 5 Dean's Yard
- 7 Parliament Square
- 9 Downing Street
- 10 Churchill War Rooms
- 11 Banqueting House
- 12 Horse Guards Parade
- 14 Queen Anne's Gate
- 16 St James's Park Station
- 17 Blewcoat School

Churches, Abbeys and Cathedrals

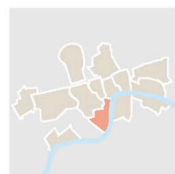
- 4 Westminster Abbey pp80–83
- 6 St Margaret's Church
- 18 Westminster Cathedral
- 19 St John's Smith Square

Museums and Galleries

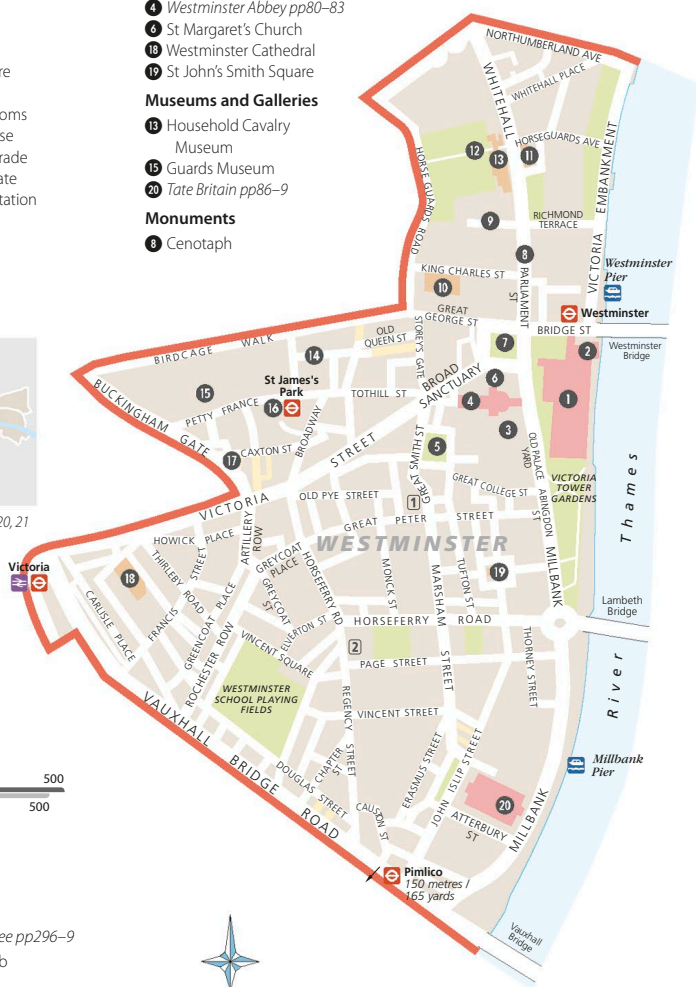
- 13 Household Cavalry Museum
- 15 Guards Museum
- 20 Tate Britain pp86–9

Monuments

- 8 Cenotaph



Street Finder maps 13, 20, 21



0 metres 500
0 yards 500

☐ Restaurants see pp296–9

- 1 Cinnamon Club
- 2 Regency Café

◀ The clock face on the Houses of Parliament



For keys to symbols see back flap

Street-by-Street: Whitehall and Westminster

Compared with many capital cities, London has little monumental architecture designed to overawe with pomp. Here, at the historic seat of both the government and the established church, it most closely approaches the broad, stately avenues of Paris, Rome and Madrid. On weekdays the streets are crowded with members of the civil service, as most of their work is based in this area. At weekends, however, it teems mainly with tourists, visiting some of London's most famous sights.



4 ★ Westminister Abbey
The Abbey is London's oldest and most important church.

7 Parliament Square
Statues of famous statesmen, such as Benjamin Disraeli, Sir Winston Churchill and Nelson Mandela, stand here.

6 St Margaret's Church
Society weddings often take place here, in Parliament's church.

5 Dean's Yard
Westminster School was founded here in 1540.



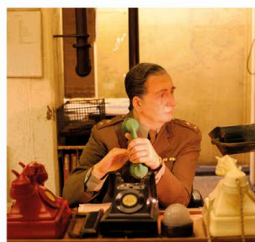
Richard I's Statue, by Carlo Marochetti (1860), depicts the 12th-century *Coeur de Lion* (Lionheart).

3 Jewel Tower
Kings once stored their most valuable possessions here.

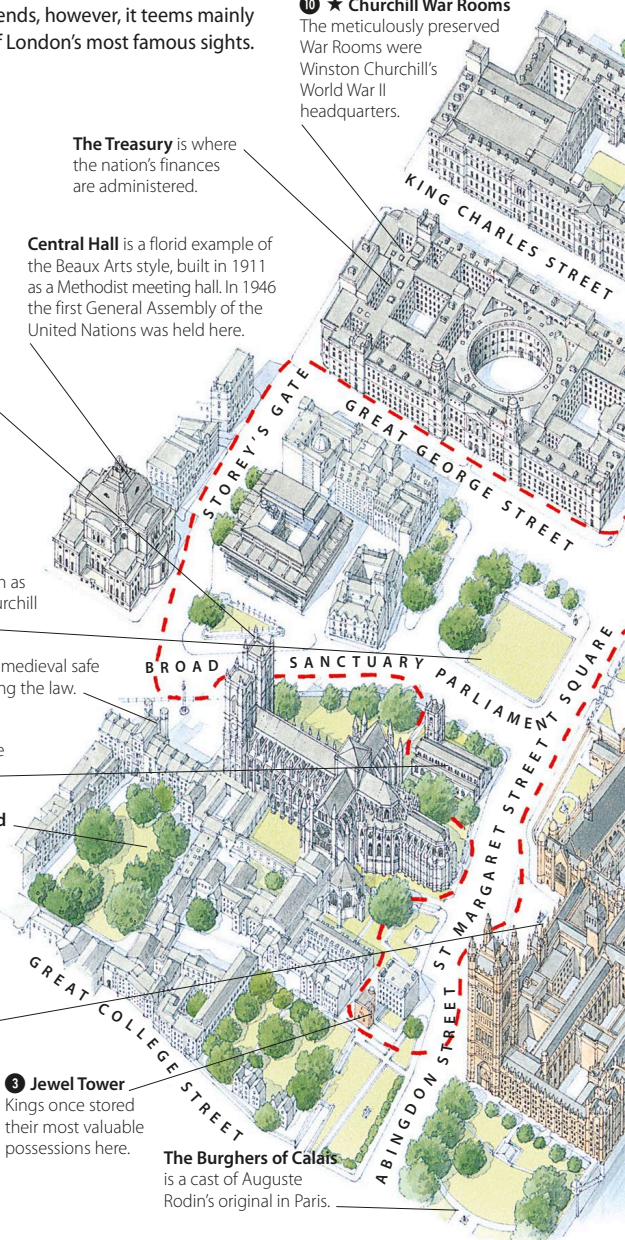
The Burghers of Calais is a cast of Auguste Rodin's original in Paris.

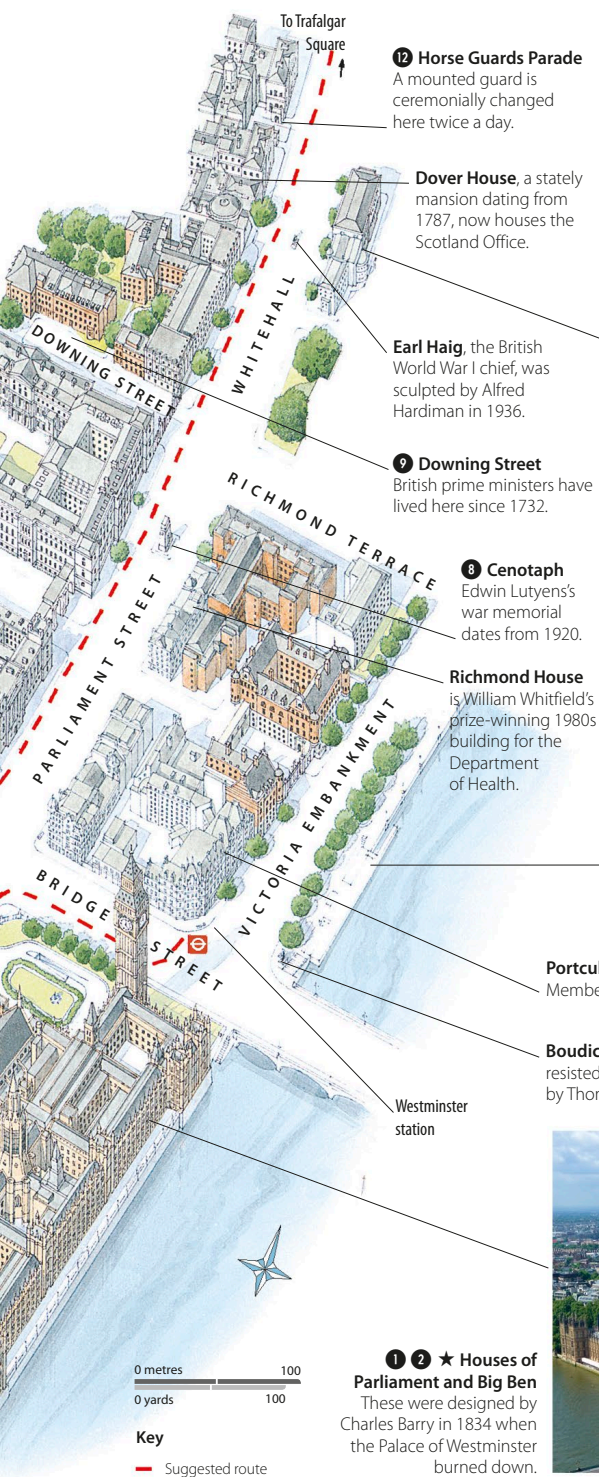
The Treasury is where the nation's finances are administered.

Central Hall is a florid example of the Beaux Arts style, built in 1911 as a Methodist meeting hall. In 1946 the first General Assembly of the United Nations was held here.



10 ★ Churchill War Rooms
The meticulously preserved War Rooms were Winston Churchill's World War II headquarters.





Locator Map

See Central London Map pp16–17



11 ★ Banqueting House

Inigo Jones designed this elegant building, which has a Rubens ceiling, in 1622.

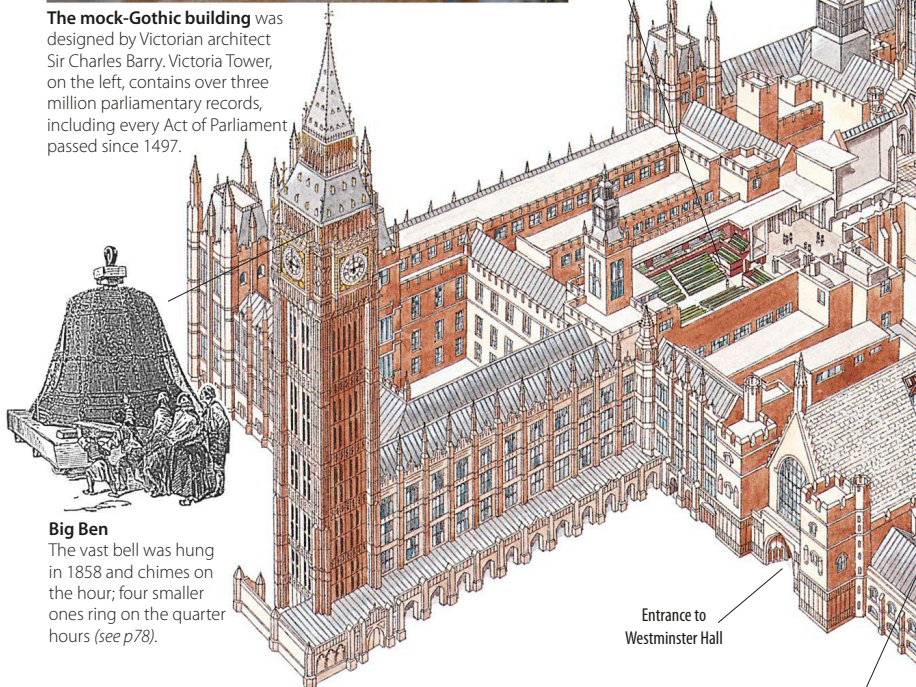


● Houses of Parliament

For over 500 years the Palace of Westminster has been the seat of the two Houses of Parliament, called the Lords and the Commons. The Commons is made up of elected Members of Parliament (MPs) of different political parties; the party – or coalition of parties – with the most MPs forms the Government, and its leader becomes prime minister. MPs from other parties make up the Opposition. Commons debates can become heated and are impartially chaired by an MP designated as Speaker. The Government formulates legislation which must be agreed to in both Houses before becoming law.



The mock-Gothic building was designed by Victorian architect Sir Charles Barry. Victoria Tower, on the left, contains over three million parliamentary records, including every Act of Parliament passed since 1497.



Big Ben

The vast bell was hung in 1858 and chimes on the hour; four smaller ones ring on the quarter hours (see p78).

KEY

① **Peers** are members of the House of Lords. They come from many walks of life and bring experience and knowledge from a wide range of professions. This is their lobby.

② **The Royal Gallery** is used for quiet work by members of the Lords, and occasional special events.



★ Commons Chamber

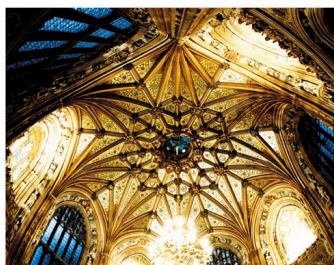
From this perspective, the Government sits on the left, the Opposition on the right, and the Speaker presides from a chair between them.

Entrance to Westminster Hall



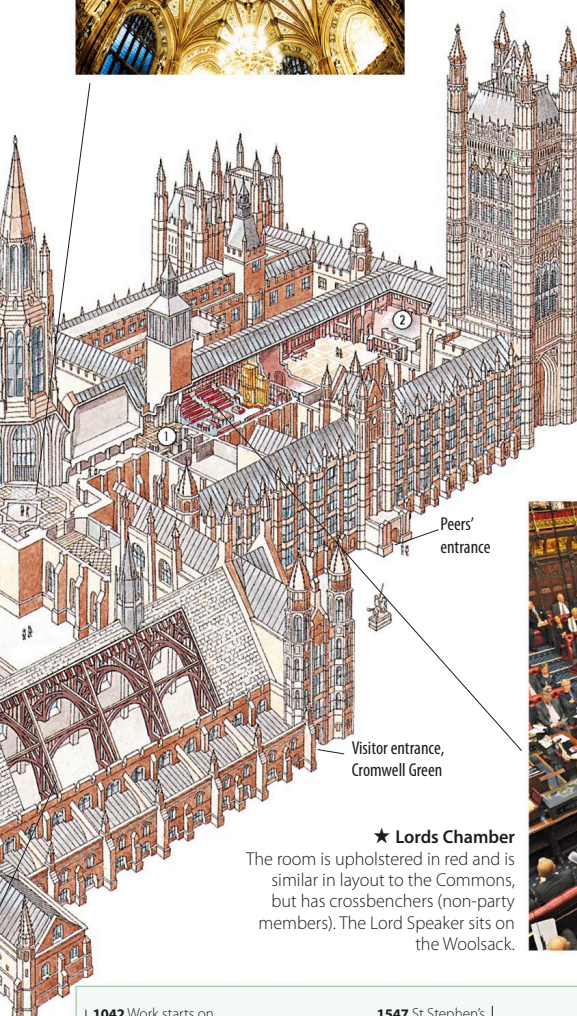
★ Westminster Hall

One of the surviving parts of the original Palace of Westminster dates from 1097; its hammerbeam roof is 14th-century.



Central Lobby

People who come to meet their MP wait here under a ceiling of rich mosaics.



Peers' entrance

Visitor entrance, Cromwell Green

★ Lords Chamber

The room is upholstered in red and is similar in layout to the Commons, but has crossbenchers (non-party members). The Lord Speaker sits on the Woolsack.



VISITORS' CHECKLIST

Practical Information

London SW1

Map 13 C5. **Tel** 020 7219 4114 to book guided and audio tours (Sat year-round and on most weekdays during parliamentary recesses); 020 7219 4272 for information on accessing the Visitors' Galleries to attend debates; UK residents can also apply to their local MP for gallery tickets (needed only for Question Time). For further details on visiting and to buy tickets online see parliament.uk/visit. Visitor entrance is at Cromwell Green.

Closed Recesses: Easter, Whitsun, summer (late Jul–early Sep), conference (mid-Sep–mid-Oct), November (mid-Nov), Christmas.

🗺️ tours and audioguides only.
🗺️ 🚶 📱 see website. 📱

Transport

🚇 Westminster. 🚉 3, 11, 12, 24, 53, 87, 88, 148, 159, 211, 453.

🚶 Victoria. 🚉 Westminster Pier.

1042 Work starts on first palace for Edward the Confessor

1547 St Stephen's Chapel becomes first Chamber of the House of Commons

1834 Palace destroyed by fire; only Westminster Hall and the Jewel Tower survive

1870 Present building, designed by Charles Barry, completed

1000

1200

1400

1600

1800

2000

1097–99 Westminster Hall built

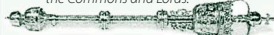
1512 After a fire, palace stops being a royal residence

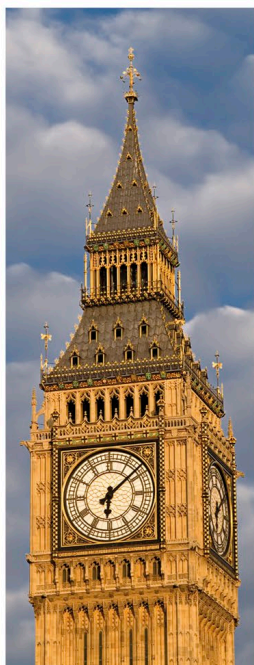
1605 Guy Fawkes and others try to blow up the king and Houses of Parliament

1642 Charles I tries to arrest five MPs but is forced to withdraw by the Speaker

1941 Chamber of House of Commons destroyed by World War II bomb

The Mace: symbol of royal authority in the Commons and Lords.





The world's most famous clock tower, which houses Big Ben

2 Big Ben

Bridge St SW1. **Map** 13 C5. Westminster. Elizabeth Tower closed for restoration until early 2020; tours are suspended for the full duration.

Big Ben is not the name of the world-famous four-faced clock in the 96 m (315 ft) tower that rises above the Houses of Parliament, but of the resonant 13.7-tonne bell on which the hours are struck, thought to be named after the Chief Commissioner of Works Sir Benjamin Hall. Cast at White-chapel in 1858, it was the second giant bell made for the clock, the first having become cracked during a test ringing. The clock is the largest in Britain, its four dials 7 m (23 ft) in diameter and the minute hand 4.2 m (14 ft) long, made in hollow copper for lightness. It has kept exact time for the nation more or less continuously since it was first set in motion in May 1859, and has become a symbol of Britain the world over. The tower itself was renamed the Elizabeth Tower in 2012 in honour of Queen Elizabeth II in her Diamond Jubilee year.

3 Jewel Tower

Abingdon St SW1. **Map** 13 B5. **Tel** 020 7222 2219. Westminster. **Open** Apr–Sep: 10am–6pm daily; Oct 10am–5pm daily; Nov–Mar: 10am–4pm Sat & Sun. **Closed** 24 Dec–1 Jan. ground floor only. english-heritage.org.uk

This and Westminster Hall (see p76) are the only remaining vestiges of the old Palace of Westminster. The tower was built in 1365 as a stronghold for Edward III's treasure and today houses a fascinating exhibition, "Parliament Past and Present", which relates the history of Parliament. The display on the upper floor is devoted to the history of the tower itself.

The tower served as the Weights and Measures office from 1869 until 1938 and another small display relates to that era. Alongside are the remains of the moat and a medieval quay.

4 Westminster Abbey

See pp80–83.

5 Dean's Yard

Broad Sanctuary SW1. **Map** 13 B5. Westminster. Buildings **Closed** to the public.

An arch near the west door of the Abbey leads into this secluded grassy square, surrounded by a jumble of buildings from many different periods. A medieval house on the east side has a distinctive dormer window and backs



Entrance to the Abbey and cloisters from Dean's Yard

on to Little Dean's Yard, where the monks' living quarters used to be. Dean's Yard is private property. It belongs to the Dean and Chapter of Westminster and is close to Westminster School, whose former pupils include poet John Dryden and playwright Ben Jonson. Its scholars are, by tradition, the first to acknowledge a new monarch.

6 St Margaret's Church

Parliament Sq SW1. **Map** 13 B5. **Tel** 020 7654 4840. Westminster. **Open** 9:30am–3:30pm Mon–Fri, 9:30am–1:30pm Sat, 2–4:30pm Sun. 11am Sun. via North Door westminster-abbey.org/st-margarets-church

Overshadowed by the Abbey, this late 15th-century church has long been a favoured venue for political and society weddings, such as Winston and Clementine Churchill's. Although much restored, the church retains some Tudor features, notably a stained-glass window commemorating the marriage of King Henry VIII and his first wife, Catherine of Aragon.

7 Parliament Square

SW1. **Map** 13 B5. Westminster.

Laid out in the 1868 to provide a more open aspect for the new Houses of Parliament, the square became Britain's first official roundabout in 1926. Today it is hemmed in by heavy traffic. Statues of statesmen and soldiers are dominated by Winston Churchill in his greatcoat, glowering at the House of Commons. On the north side, Abraham Lincoln stands in front of the mock-Gothic Middlesex Guildhall, completed in 1913.

8 Cenotaph

Whitehall SW1. **Map** 13 B4. Westminster.

This sombre monument, completed in 1920 by Sir Edwin Lutyens to commemorate the dead of World War I, stands in the middle

of Whitehall. On Remembrance Day every year – the Sunday nearest 11 November – the monarch and other dignitaries place wreaths of red poppies on the Cenotaph. This solemn ceremony, commemorating the 1918 armistice, honours those who have died while serving in the armed forces (see pp58–9).



The Cenotaph

10 Churchill War Rooms

Clive Steps, King Charles St SW1.

Map 13 B5. **Tel** 020 7930 6961.

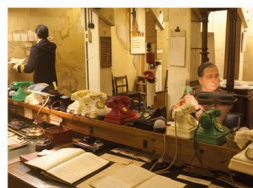
📍 Westminster, St James's Park.

Open 9:30am–6pm daily (last adm: 5pm). **Closed** 24–26 Dec, 1 Jan. 🚗

📱 must book in advance 🚿

📺 iwm.org.uk

This intriguing slice of 20th-century history is a warren of rooms below the Government Office building, where the War Cabinet met during World War II, when German bombs were falling on London. The War Rooms include living quarters for key ministers and military leaders and a Cabinet Room, where many strategic decisions were taken. They are laid out as they were when the war ended,



Telephones in the Map Room of the Cabinet War Rooms

complete with period furniture, including Churchill's desk, communications equipment and maps for plotting military strategy. The Churchill Museum is a multimedia exhibit recording Churchill's life and career, and a permanent display, *Undercover: Life in Churchill's Bunker*, features personal stories, objects and interviews with those who worked in the War Rooms.

9 Downing Street

SW1. **Map** 13 B4. **📍** Westminster.

Closed to the public.

Sir George Downing (1623–84) spent part of his youth in the American colonies. He was the second graduate from the nascent Harvard College before returning to fight for the Parliamentarians in the English Civil War. In 1680, he bought

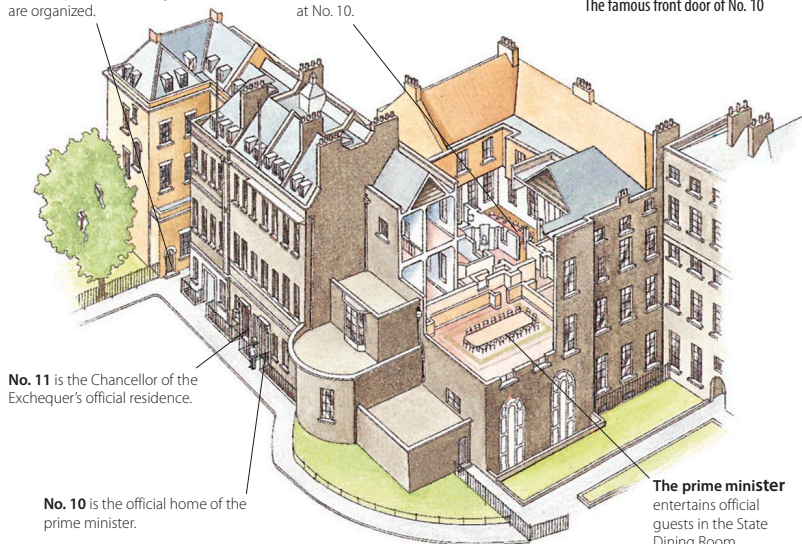
some land near Whitehall Palace and built a street of houses. Four of these survive, though they are much altered. King George II gave No. 10 to Sir Robert Walpole in 1732. Since then it has been the official residence of the prime minister and contains offices as well as a private apartment. In 1989, for security reasons, iron gates were erected at the Whitehall end.



The famous front door of No. 10

No. 12, the Whips' Office, is where political campaigns are organized.

Government policy is decided in the Cabinet Room at No. 10.



No. 11 is the Chancellor of the Exchequer's official residence.

No. 10 is the official home of the prime minister.

The prime minister entertains official guests in the State Dining Room.

Westminster Abbey

The resting place of Britain's monarchs, Westminster Abbey is the setting for coronations and great royal events, such as the marriage of Prince William and Catherine, now the Duchess of Cambridge, in 2011. Within its walls are some of the most glorious examples of medieval architecture in London and one of the most impressive collections of tombs and monuments in the world. Half national church, half national museum, the Abbey is part of British national consciousness.



★ West Front Towers

These towers, completed in 1745, were designed by Nicholas Hawksmoor.



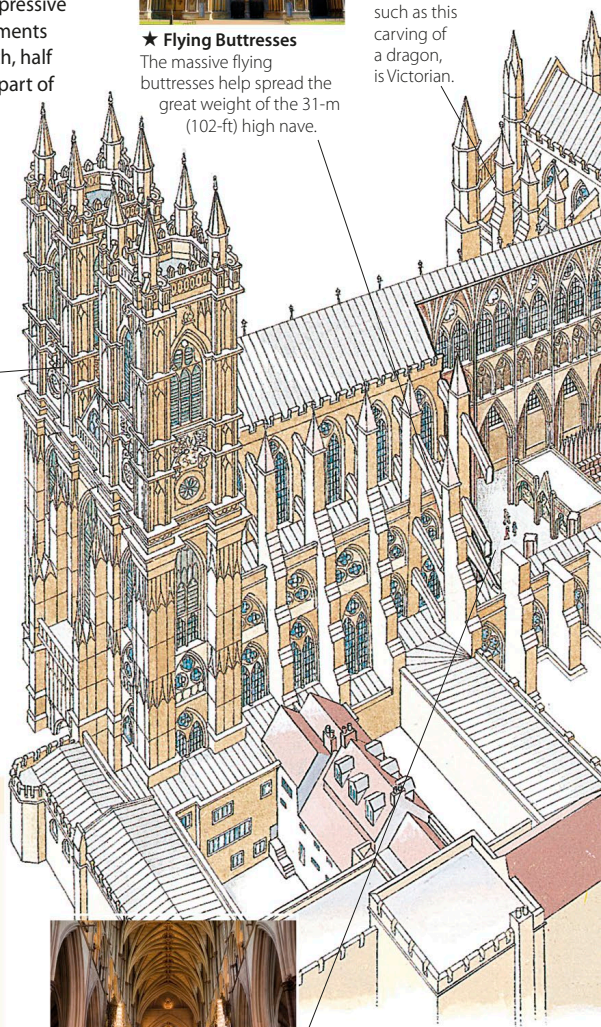
★ Flying Buttresses

The massive flying buttresses help spread the great weight of the 31-m (102-ft) high nave.



North/Main Entrance

The stonework here, such as this carving of a dragon, is Victorian.



KEY

- ① **The North Transept** has three chapels on the east side containing some of the Abbey's finest monuments.
- ② **St Edward's Chapel** houses Edward the Confessor's shrine and the tombs of other English medieval monarchs.
- ③ **The South Transept** contains "Poets' Corner", where memorials to famous literary figures can be seen.
- ④ **Museum**
- ⑤ **The Cloisters**, built mainly in the 13th and 14th centuries, link the Abbey church with the other buildings.



★ The Nave viewed from the West End

At 10 m (35 ft) wide, the nave is comparatively narrow, but it is the highest in England.

A Guided Tour of Westminster Abbey

The Abbey's interior presents an exceptionally diverse array of architectural and sculptural styles. These range from the austere French Gothic of the nave to the stunning complexity of Henry VII's Tudor chapel and the riotous invention of the later 18th-century monuments. Many British monarchs were buried here; some of their tombs are deliberately plain, while others are lavishly decorated. There are also monuments to a number of Britain's greatest public figures – ranging from politicians to poets – crowded into the aisles and transepts.



② Grave of the Unknown Warrior

The body of an unknown soldier was brought from the battlefields of World War I and buried here in 1920. His grave commemorates all who have lost their lives in war.

Historical Plan of the Abbey

The first Abbey church was established as early as the 10th century, when St Dunstan brought a group of Benedictine monks to the area. The present structure dates largely from the 13th century; the new, French-influenced design was begun in 1245 at the behest of Henry III. Because of its unique role as the royal coronation church, the Abbey survived Henry VIII's mid-16th-century onslaught on Britain's monastic buildings.

Key

- Built between 1055 and 1350
- Added from 1350 to 1420
- Built between 1500 and 1512
- Towers completed 1745
- Restored after 1850

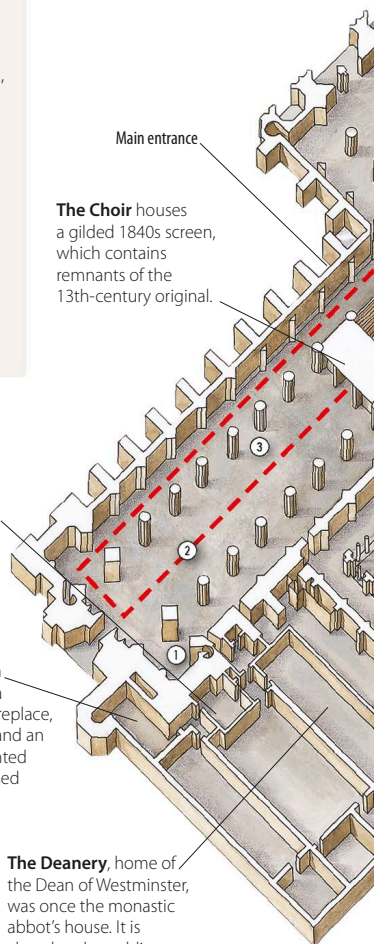


① Coronation Chair

Constructed in 1301, this chair has been used at every coronation since 1308.

The Jericho Parlour, added in the early 16th century, contains some fine panelling. It is closed to the public.

The Jerusalem Chamber has a 17th-century fireplace, fine tapestries and an interesting painted ceiling. It is closed to the public.



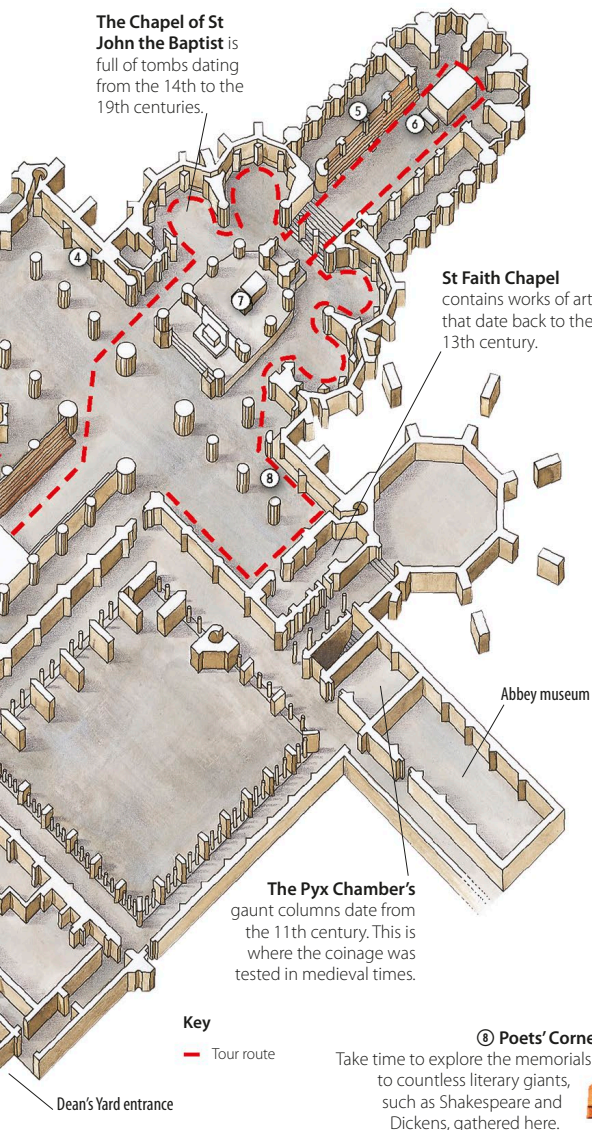
The Deanery, home of the Dean of Westminster, was once the monastic abbot's house. It is closed to the public.

Coronation

The Abbey has been the fittingly sumptuous setting for all royal coronations since 1066. The last occupant of the Coronation Chair was the present monarch, Elizabeth II. She was crowned in 1953 in the first televised coronation.



The Chapel of St John the Baptist is full of tombs dating from the 14th to the 19th centuries.



St Faith Chapel

contains works of art that date back to the 13th century.

The Pyx Chamber's gaunt columns date from the 11th century. This is where the coinage was tested in medieval times.

Key

— Tour route

⑧ Poets' Corner

Take time to explore the memorials to countless literary giants, such as Shakespeare and Dickens, gathered here.

③ The Nave

The nave is 10.5 m (35 ft) wide and 31 m (102 ft) high. It took 150 years to build.



④ Nightingale Memorial

The North Transept chapels contain some of the Abbey's finest monuments – this one, by Roubiliac, is for Lady Elizabeth Nightingale (1761).

⑤ Tomb of Elizabeth I

Inside the Lady Chapel you will find Elizabeth I's (reigned 1558–1603) huge tomb. It also houses the body of her sister, "Bloody" Mary I.

⑥ The Lady Chapel


The undersides of the choir stalls, dating from 1512, are beautifully carved with exotic and fantastic creatures.





⑦ The Chapel of St Edward the Confessor

The shrine of the Saxon king Edward the Confessor and the tombs of many medieval monarchs are here.



11 Banqueting House

Whitehall SW1. **Map** 13 B4. **Tel** 0844 482 7777; to check possible closures call 020 3166 6154.  Charing Cross, Embankment, Westminster.

Open 10am–5pm daily (last adm 4:15pm). **Closed** public hols, 22 Dec–1 Jan; may close early for functions (see above).   Mon–Fri only.   hrp.org.uk


This delightful building is of great architectural importance. It was the first in central London to embody the Classical Palladian style that designer Inigo Jones brought back from his travels in Italy. Completed in 1622, its disciplined stone façade marked a startling change from the Elizabethans' fussy turrets and unrestrained external decoration. It was the sole survivor of the fire that destroyed most of the old Whitehall Palace in 1698.

The ceiling paintings by Rubens, a complex allegory on the exaltation of James I, were commissioned by his son, Charles I, in 1630. This blatant glorification of royalty was despised by Oliver Cromwell and the Parliamentarians, who executed King Charles I on a scaffold outside Banqueting House in 1649. Only 11 years later, Charles II celebrated his restoration to the throne. The building is used for official functions.



Mounted sentries stationed outside Horse Guards Parade

12 Horse Guards Parade

Whitehall SW1. **Map** 13 B4.  Westminster, Charing Cross, Embankment. Changing the Guard: Mon–Sat 11am, Sun 10am. Daily inspection (front yard): 4pm daily. Trooping the Colour: see *Ceremonies* pp56–9.

The Changing the Guard ceremony takes place in what was Henry VIII's tiltyard (tournament ground) every morning. The elegant buildings, completed in 1755, were designed by William Kent. On the left is the Old Treasury, also by Kent, and Dover House, completed in 1758 and now used as the Scotland Office. Nearby is a trace of the "real tennis" court where Henry VIII is said to have

played the precursor of modern lawn tennis. On the opposite side, the view is dominated by the ivy-covered Citadel. This is a bomb-proof structure that was erected in 1940 beside the Admiralty. During World War II, it was used as a communications headquarters by the Navy.

13 Household Cavalry Museum

Horse Guards, Whitehall SW1. **Map** 13 B4. **Tel** 020 7930 3070.  Westminster, Charing Cross, Embankment.

Open Apr–Oct: 10am–6pm daily, Nov–Mar: 10am–5pm daily. **Closed** Good Fri, 20 Jul, 24–26 Dec; in summer occasionally for ceremonies (phone to check).    householdcavalrymuseum.co.uk

A collection of artifacts and interactive displays cover the history of the senior regiments based at Horse Guards, from their role in the Battle of Waterloo to their service in Afghanistan. Through a glass partition visitors can see the working stables, and kids (big and small) can try on uniforms.

14 Queen Anne's Gate

SW1. **Map** 13 A5.  St James's Park.

The spacious terraced houses at the west end of this well-preserved enclave date from 1704 and are notable for the ornate canopies over their front doors. At the other end are houses built some 70 years later, sporting blue plaques that record former residents, such as Lord Palmerston, the Victorian prime minister. It is rumoured that the British Secret Service, MI5, was formerly based in this unlikely spot. A small statue of Queen Anne stands in front of the wall separating Nos. 13 and 15. To the west, situated at the corner of Petty France, Sir Basil Spence's Home Office building (1976) is an architectural incongruity. Cockpit Steps, leading down to Birdcage Walk, mark the site of a 17th-century venue for the popular, blood-thirsty sport of cockfighting.



Panels from the Rubens ceiling, Banqueting House

15 Guards Museum

Birdcage Walk SW1. **Map** 13 A5.
Tel 020 7414 3428. St James's Park.
Open 10am–4pm daily (last adm: 3:30pm). **Closed** mid-Dec–end Jan & ceremonies. (free for under-16s). theguardsmuseum.com

Entered from Birdcage Walk, the museum is under the parade ground of Wellington Barracks, headquarters of the five Foot Guards regiments. A must for military buffs, the museum illustrates various battles in which the Guards have taken part, from the English Civil War (1642–8) to the present. Weapons and row after row of colourful uniforms are on display, as well as a fascinating collection of models.

16 St James's Park Station

55 Broadway SW1. **Map** 13 A5.
 St James's Park.

The Underground station is built into Broadway House, Charles Holden's 1929 headquarters for London Transport. It is notable for its sculptures by Jacob Epstein and reliefs by Henry Moore and Eric Gill.

17 Blewcoat School

23 Caxton St SW1. **Map** 13 A5.
 St James's Park. **Closed** to public (Bridal shop by appt: 020 7222 2877).

This red-brick gem hemmed in by the office towers of Victoria Street was built in 1709 as a charity school to teach pupils how to 'read, write, cast accounts



Statue of a Blewcoat pupil above the Caxton Street entrance



Baroque interior of St John's Smith Square

and the catechism'. All pupils were boys until 1713, when girls were admitted; they were permitted to attend until 1876. In 1899 it became an elementary school, which it remained until the mid 1920s. It was used as an army store during World War II, and was bought by the National Trust in 1954; it now houses an exclusive bridal shop.

18 Westminster Cathedral

Victoria Street SW1. **Map** 20 F1.
Tel 020 7798 9055. Victoria.
Open 7am–7pm Mon–Fri, 8am–7pm Sat & Sun. for bell tower lift (9:30am–5pm Mon–Fri, 9:30am–6pm Sat & Sun) and exhibition. Check website for details of Mass and services. westminstercathedral.org.uk

One of London's rare Byzantine buildings, the cathedral was designed by John Francis Bentley for the Catholic diocese and completed in 1903 on the site of a former prison. Its 87-m (285-ft) high red-brick tower, with horizontal stripes of white stone, stands out on the skyline in sharp contrast to the Abbey nearby. A piazza on the north side provides a good view of the cathedral from Victoria Street. The rich interior decoration, with marble of varying colours and intricate mosaics, makes the domes above the nave seem

incongruous. They were left bare because the project ran out of money. Eric Gill's dramatic reliefs of the 14 Stations of the Cross, created during World War I, adorn the pier of the nave, which is the widest in Britain. The organ is one of the finest in Europe, and there are often free recitals on Sunday afternoons at 4:45pm.

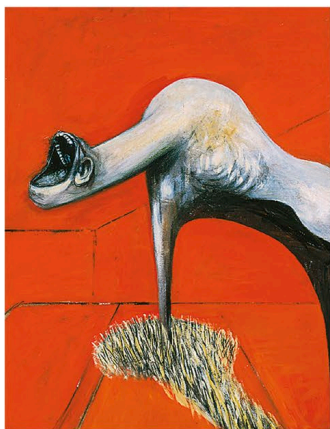
19 St John's Smith Square

Smith Sq SW1. **Map** 21 B1. **Tel** 020 7222 1061. Westminster. **Closed** to public except for concerts. Box office: **Open** 10am–5pm Mon–Sat (to 6pm on concert days). phone first. sjss.org.uk

Described by artist and art historian Sir Hugh Casson as one of the masterpieces of English Baroque architecture, Thomas Archer's plump church, with its turrets at each corner, looks as if it is trying to burst from the confines of the square, and rather overpowers the pleasing 18th-century houses on its north side. Today it is principally a concert hall. It has an accident-prone history: completed in 1728, it was burned down in 1742, struck by lightning in 1773 and destroyed by a World War II bomb in 1941. There is a reasonably priced basement restaurant that is open on weekdays for lunch and on concert evenings.

20 Tate Britain

Tate Britain displays the world's largest collection of British art from the 16th to the 21st centuries. In the Clore Galleries are works from the magnificent Turner Bequest, left to the nation by the great landscape artist J M W Turner in 1851. The Clore Galleries have their own entrance, giving direct access to the Turner Collection and allowing a full appreciation of Sir James Stirling's Post-Modernist design for the building. The Tate often loans out or removes works for restoration, so the exhibits described here may not always be on display.

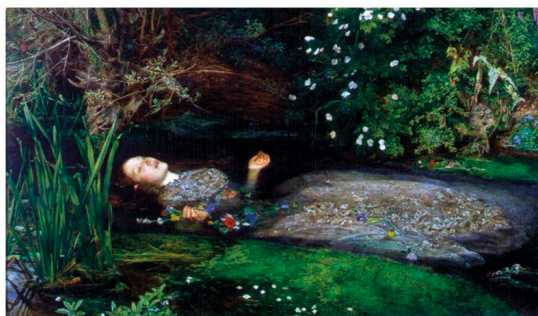


★ **Three Studies for Figures at the Base of a Crucifixion** (c.1944, detail)
Francis Bacon's famous triptych encapsulates an anguished vision of human existence. When first displayed, its savagery deeply shocked audiences.



Gallery Guide

Highlights from the collection are displayed chronologically around the outer perimeter of the galleries. More focused displays, "BP Spotlights", offer a detailed look at specific artists or themes. The Duveen Galleries showcase contemporary sculpture. Large retrospectives and themed temporary exhibits are shown either in the lower galleries or ground-floor east wing. Every other year, Tate Britain also exhibits the Turner Prize nominees.



★ **Ophelia** (1851–2)
Taken from Shakespeare's play *Hamlet*, the scene of the drowning of Ophelia by Pre-Raphaelite John Everett Millais is one of the most famous – and popular – paintings at Tate Britain.

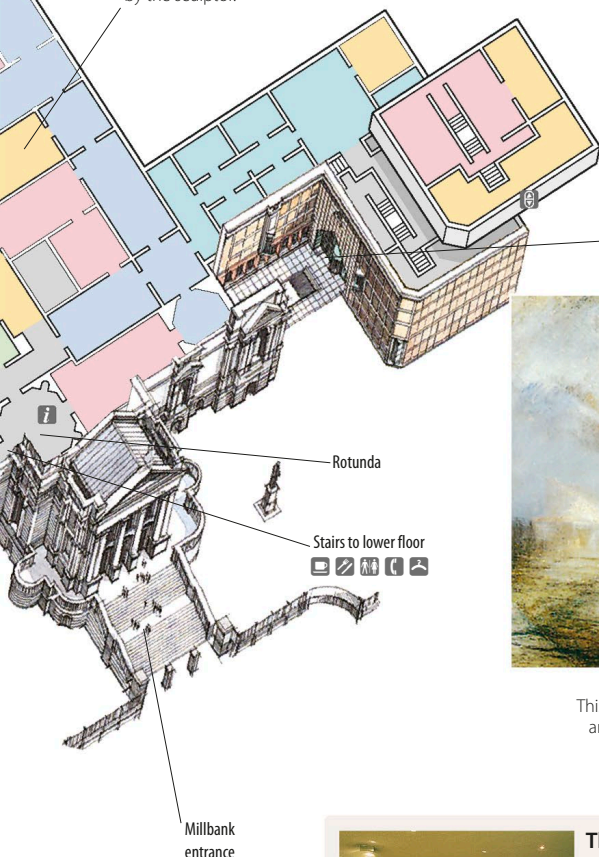


The Saltonstall Family (c.1637)

David Des Granges's life-size family portrait includes the dead first Lady Saltonstall as the second shows off her new baby.

Henry Moore Galleries

This permanent display holds works by the sculptor.



Key to Floorplan

- BP Walk Through British Art
- Duveen Galleries
- Clore Galleries
- Temporary exhibitions
- Non-exhibition space
- BP Spotlights
- Permanent displays

VISITORS' CHECKLIST

Practical Information

Millbank SW1.

Map 21 B2.

Tel 020 7887 8888. www.tate.org.uk

Open 10am–6pm daily.

Closed 24–26 Dec.

Adm charge for special exhibitions only. access via Manton entrance (Atterbury St).

Lectures, film presentations, exhibitions, children's activities. Late at Tate Britain: open until 10pm 1st Fri of most months (for free events).

Transport

Pimlico. C10, 2, 3, 36, 87, 88, 185, 436. Victoria, Vauxhall. Millbank Pier every 40 mins.

Entrance to Clore Galleries



★ Peace – Burial at Sea (1842)

This is J M W Turner's tribute to his friend and rival David Wilkie. It was painted in 1842, the year after Wilkie died at sea.



The Art of Good Food

The lower floor of Tate Britain houses a café and an espresso bar, as well as a restaurant. Celebrated murals by Rex Whistler adorn the walls of the restaurant, telling the tale of the mythical inhabitants of Epicuriana and their expedition in search of rare foods. The extensive wine list has won awards. Open for lunch, weekend brunch and afternoon tea.

Exploring Tate Britain

Tate Britain draws its displays from the massive Tate Collection. The variety of works on show, combined with a rigorous programme of loan exhibitions and career retrospectives of British artists, results in a selection to suit all tastes – from Elizabethan portraiture to cutting-edge installation. The displays are changed frequently to explore many different aspects of the history and art of Britain from 1500 to the present day.



The Cholmondeley Ladies (c.1600–10), British School

BP Walk Through British Art (16th to Early 20th Centuries)

The national collection of British art has been hung in a continuous chronological display from the 1500s to the present day. This presentation allows viewers to observe a range of art from any one historical period, such as the Tudors and Stuarts, and see how British art has changed over the centuries. The walk comprises around 500 artworks in some 20 galleries. The galleries to the left of the main Duveen Galleries (if entering from the Millbank entrance) take you from the earliest paintings through to the 1910s.

Featured are important works by some of Britain's great 18th-century painters, including portraits and landscapes by Gainsborough, dramatic large-scale paintings in an idealized style by artists such as Benjamin West and society portraits by Joshua Reynolds, the head of the newly established Royal Academy.

Landscape painting lies at the heart of the revolution in British painting during the 19th century, when images of the countryside changed

ideas not only about art, but about what it meant to be British.

The first half of the 19th century saw dramatic expansion and change in the arts in Britain. New themes began to emerge, and artists started working on a much larger scale as they competed for attention on the walls of public exhibitions. Monumental canvases by John Martin and Thomas Lawrence, plus celebrated works by David Wilkie are evidence of this. Storytelling was at the heart of Victorian art; the Victorians' belief in the power of art to convey moral messages produced such important works as Augustus Egg's series *Past and Present*.

Pre-Raphaelite and Idealist pieces are perhaps the most popular works at Tate Britain; key examples are John Everett Millais's *Ophelia*, which was completed in the mid-1880s, and William Holman Hunt's *Awakening Conscience*. Painting and sculpture from the late Victorian period includes the American artist John Singer Sargent's seductive *Mrs Carl Meyer* and *her Children*, and austere, haunting pieces by Gwen John.

20th-Century British Art

The modern section of Tate Britain begins towards the front of the gallery with the early 20th century. It includes Jacob Epstein's colossal alabaster sculpture of two wrestling figures, *Jacob and the Angel*. Work by other celebrated British sculptors, such as Barbara Hepworth and Henry Moore, can also be seen in this section. Moore is one of the few artists to have a room dedicated to his works in Tate Britain. Paintings by two of the most famous, and disturbing, modern British artists are also on display here: Francis Bacon, whose *Three Studies for Figures at the Base of a Crucifixion* (c.1944) depicts three mutant organisms in agony, confined in an apparently hostile and godless world; and Lucian Freud, with his early, unsettling portrait of his first wife, *Girl with a Kitten* (1947).

From the 1960s, Tate's funding for the purchase of works began to increase substantially, while artistic activity continued to pick up speed, encouraged by public support. As a result, the Tate has a particularly big collection of work from this period, which makes a frequent rotation of displays necessary. You are, however, likely to see iconic works of the period by artists such as Sir Peter Blake, Richard Hamilton and the early work of David Hockney.

The 1980s saw the emergence of provocative artists such as Gilbert & George, known as the Living Sculptures, whose photo installations, of which *England* is an example, are often concerned with identity, and Richard Long, who created a whole new approach to the relationship between art and landscape by importing the land itself into the gallery.

The following decade was dominated by the so-called Young British Artists (YBAs), who include Damien Hirst, perhaps the most notorious, as well as Tracey Emin and



Self-Portrait with Knickers (2000) by Sarah Lucas

Sarah Lucas, famed for their controversial installation and photographic work. Works from this period are well-represented in the gallery.

The frequently changing displays at Tate Britain include themed exhibitions as well as rooms devoted to single artists. The Contemporary British Art galleries reflect current developments in British art and are devoted to work by up-and-coming artists. Important newly acquired works are often featured.

Clore Galleries

The Turner Bequest comprises some 300 oil paintings, 300 sketchbooks, and about 20,000 watercolours and drawings left to the nation by the great landscape painter J M W Turner on his death in 1851. Turner's will had specified that a gallery be built to house his pictures and this was finally done in 1987 with the opening of the Clore Galleries. Most of the oil paintings are on show in the main galleries, while the watercolours are the subject of changing displays.

Upstairs in the Clore Galleries is a room dedicated to works by poet and artist William Blake, a seminal figure of the Romantic Age despite being largely unrecognized in his lifetime.

Temporary Exhibitions and the Turner Prize

Tate Britain is known for its large retrospectives of some of the biggest names in British art, including Barbara Hepworth, L S Lowry and Paul Nash. While these blockbusters have an entrance charge, smaller, changing exhibits in the "BP Spotlights" galleries are free, and focus on lesser-known artists, emerging artists, or a particular theme or movement. The elegant central spaces, the Duveen Galleries, are used to show special commissions of contemporary artists.

Tate also organizes the prestigious annual Turner Prize,

and hosts the exhibition in alternate years (other years it is shown in a gallery outside London). Representing all sections of the art world, artists are shortlisted on the basis of their work over the course of the preceding year. Works by all the artists shortlisted are exhibited, before a judging panel decides on the winner. Previous winners include film artist (and later Oscar winner) Steve McQueen and artist Grayson Perry. The prize has often been surrounded by controversy because of the often conceptual nature of the nominated works – for example, Damien Hirst's (1995) cow and calf, bisected and preserved in formaldehyde, Tracey Emin's dishevelled *My Bed* (1998) and Martin Creed's 2001 *Work No. 227*: an empty room in which the lights were turned on and off every five seconds.

Kids at the Tate

To encourage art appreciation from a young age, under-12s can visit any special exhibition at Tate Britain for free (when accompanied by an adult). Family-friendly events are held most weekends and you can pick up artist-designed, interactive kids' activity packs from the information points. Check the Tate website for details of events and also for its dedicated kids' zone, full of art-related games, films and fun.



Shipping at the Mouth of the Thames (c.1806–7) by J M W Turner



PICCADILLY, MAYFAIR AND ST JAMES'S

This is royal London, with the famous Buckingham Palace and the royal deer parks of St James's and Green Park. To the north, Mayfair has the city's most exclusive streets and squares, filled with galleries, auction houses and gentlemen's clubs. St James's,

redolent of the 18th century, still bristles with traditional gents' outfitters and other long-established, royal warrant-holding emporia. Piccadilly, the main artery of the West End, has the Ritz Hotel, the Royal Academy and luxury grocer Fortnum & Mason.

Sights at a Glance

Historic Streets and Buildings

- 1 Piccadilly Circus
- 4 Burlington Arcade
- 5 Ritz Hotel
- 6 Spencer House
- 7 St James's Palace
- 8 St James's Square
- 9 Royal Opera Arcade
- 10 Pall Mall
- 13 The Mall
- 14 Marlborough House
- 17 Buckingham Palace pp98–9
- 20 Wellington Arch
- 22 Shepherd Market
- 23 Grosvenor Square

Museums and Galleries

- 3 Royal Academy of Arts
- 11 Institute of Contemporary Arts
- 18 The Queen's Gallery
- 19 Royal Mews
- 21 Apsley House
- 24 Handel & Hendrix in London
- 25 Faraday Museum

Churches

- 2 St James's Church
- 15 Queen's Chapel

Parks and Gardens

- 12 St James's Park
- 16 Green Park

☐ Restaurants *see pp296–9*

- 1 Bellamy's
- 2 Bentley's Oyster Bar and Grill
- 3 Le Caprice
- 4 Cecconi's
- 5 Chisou
- 6 Cut at 45 Park Lane
- 7 Al Duca
- 8 Le Gavroche
- 9 Hakkasan Mayfair
- 10 Hard Rock Café
- 11 Céleste
- 12 Murano
- 13 Nobu
- 14 Noura
- 15 La Petite Maison
- 16 El Pirata
- 17 Pollen Street Social
- 18 Rasa
- 19 The Ritz Restaurant
- 20 Scott's
- 21 The Square
- 22 Veeraswamy
- 23 The Wolseley



Street Finder, maps 12, 13

Street-by-Street: Piccadilly and St James's

As soon as Henry VIII built St James's Palace in the 1530s, the area around it became the centre of fashionable London, and it has remained so ever since. Its historic streets, squares and arcades attract a truly international – and extremely wealthy – set. The flagship stores of exclusive global brands sit alongside classic

British names that have served royalty and aristocracy for centuries. The

Royal Academy and many independent art galleries cluster nearby.



3 ★ Royal Academy of Arts

Sir Joshua Reynolds founded the Academy in 1768. Now it mounts large popular exhibitions.



4 ★ Burlington Arcade

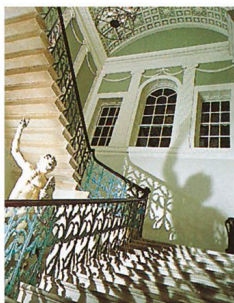
Uniformed beadles discourage unruly behaviour in this 19th-century mall.

5 Ritz Hotel

Named after César Ritz, and opened in 1906, it still lives up to his name.

6 Spencer House

An ancestor of Princess Diana built this house in 1766.



Clarence House was designed by John Nash for William IV, and is now Prince Charles's London home.

Piccadilly

The street derives its name from the ruffs, or "pickadills", worn by 17th-century dandies.

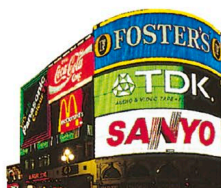
Albany

This mansion has been one of London's smartest addresses since it opened in 1803.



Jermyn Street is one of London's most elegant streets, lined with shops for style-conscious men.

Piccadilly station

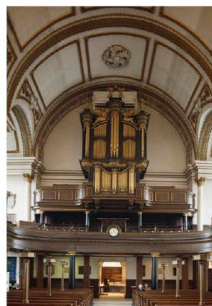
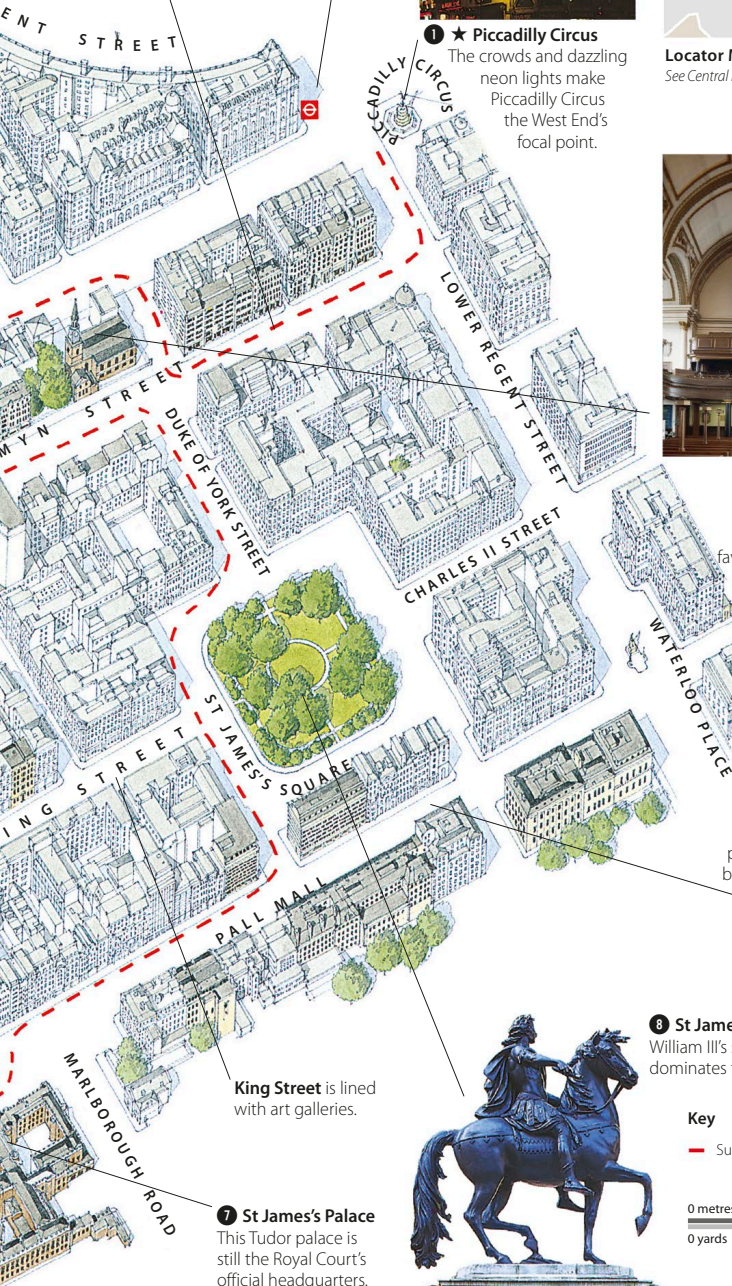


- 1 ★ Piccadilly Circus**
The crowds and dazzling neon lights make Piccadilly Circus the West End's focal point.



Locator Map

See Central London Map pp16-17



- 2 ★ St James's Church**

The organ in Christopher Wren's favourite church was brought here from Whitehall Palace in 1691.

- 10 Pall Mall**

Its famous clubs provide a haven for businessmen (and a few women).

- 8 St James's Square**

William III's statue dominates the square.

King Street is lined with art galleries.

- 7 St James's Palace**
This Tudor palace is still the Royal Court's official headquarters.



Key

— Suggested route

0 metres 100
0 yards 100

retired by the time this hotel was built and named after him in 1906.

The colonnaded frontal of the imposing château-style building was meant to suggest Paris, where the very grandest and most fashionable hotels were to be found around the turn of the century. It maintains its Edwardian air of opulence and is a popular stop, welcoming those who are suitably dressed (no jeans or sportswear, including trainers; jacket and tie for men) for afternoon tea, with daily sittings in the Palm Court at 11:30am, 1:30pm, 3:30pm, 5:30pm and 7:30pm.

6 Spencer House

27 St James's Pl SW1. **Map** 12 F4. Green Park. **Closed** to the public. **royal.uk**
Tel 020 7514 1958 (Mon–Fri). Green Park. **Open** Sep–Jul: 10am–5:30pm
 Sun (last adm: 4:30pm). No children under 10. compulsory.
spencerhouse.co.uk

This Palladian palace, built in 1766 for the first Earl Spencer, an ancestor of the late Princess of Wales, has been completely restored to its 18th-century splendour (thanks to an £18 million renovation project). It contains some wonderful paintings and contemporary furniture; one of the high-lights is the beautifully decorated Painted Room. The house is open to the public on Sundays – for guided tours only – and group bookings the rest of



The elegant façade of Spencer House

the week. It is also used for receptions and meetings.

7 St James's Palace

Pall Mall SW1. **Map** 12 F4. Green Park. **Closed** to the public. **royal.uk**

Built by Henry VIII in the late 1530s on the site of a former leper hospital, the palace was a primary royal residence only briefly, mainly during the reign of Elizabeth I and in the late 17th and early 18th centuries. In 1952, Queen Elizabeth II made her first speech as queen here, and foreign ambassadors are still officially accredited to the Court of St James's. Its northern gatehouse, seen from St James's Street, is one of London's great Tudor

landmarks. The palace remains a royal residence for, among others, The Princess Royal and Princess Alexandra, and its State Apartments are sometimes used for entertaining during official State visits.

8 St James's Square

SW1. **Map** 13 A3. Green Park, Piccadilly Circus.

London's squares, quadrangles of elegant homes surrounding gated gardens, are among the city's most attractive features. St James's, one of London's earliest, was laid out in the 1670s and lined by exclusive houses for those whose business made it vital for them to live near



St James's
Tudor gatehouse

St James's Palace. Many buildings date from the 18th and 19th centuries and have had numerous illustrious residents. During World War II, Generals Eisenhower and de Gaulle both had headquarters here.

Today, No. 10 on the north side, Chatham House (1736), is home to the Royal Institute for International Affairs. In the northwest corner of the square is the London Library (1896), a private lending library founded in 1841 by historian Thomas Carlyle (see p200) and others. The lovely gardens in the middle contain an equestrian statue of William III, here since 1808.



Afternoon tea served in the opulent Palm Court of the Ritz

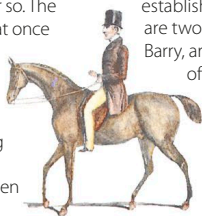


Royal Opera Arcade

9 Royal Opera Arcade

SW1. **Map** 13 A3. Piccadilly Circus.

London's first shopping arcade was designed by John Nash and completed in 1818, behind the Haymarket Opera House (now called Her Majesty's Theatre). It beat the Burlington Arcade (see p94) by a year or so. The traditional shops that once used to be based here have since moved on: Farlows, selling shooting and fishing equipment, and the famous Hunter's green Wellington boots, is now nearby, at No. 9 Pall Mall.



The Duke of Wellington (1842), a frequent visitor to Pall Mall

entrance to No. 116, Nash's United Services Club (1827). This was the favourite club of the Duke of Wellington and now houses the Institute of Directors. Facing it, on the other side of Waterloo Place, is the Athenaeum (No. 107), designed three years later by Decimus Burton, and long the powerhouse of the British establishment. Next door are two clubs by Sir Charles Barry, architect of the Houses of Parliament (see pp76–7): the Travellers' is at No. 106 and the Reform at No. 104. The clubs' stately interiors are well preserved but only members and their guests are admitted.

10 Pall Mall

SW1. **Map** 13 A4. Charing Cross, Green Park, Piccadilly Circus.

This dignified street is named for the game of palle-maille – a cross between croquet and golf – which was played here in the 17th century. For more than 150 years, Pall Mall has been at the heart of London's clubland. Here, exclusive gentlemen's clubs were formed to provide members with a refuge from their womenfolk.

The clubhouses now amount to a textbook of the most fashionable architects of the era. At the east end, on the left is the colonnaded

11 Institute of Contemporary Arts

The Mall SW1. **Map** 13 B3. **Tel** 020 7930 3647. Charing Cross, Piccadilly Circus. **Open** 11am–11pm Tue–Sun. (Exhibition space closes 6pm, 9pm Thu, bookshop 9pm.) **Closed** 1 Jan, 24–26 & 31 Dec, public hols. (cinema and lower gallery) phone first. Concerts, theatre, dance, lectures, films, exhibitions. www.ica.org.uk

The Institute of Contemporary Arts (ICA) was established in 1947 to offer British artists some of the facilities available to artists at the Museum of Modern Art in

New York. Originally on Dover Street, it has been situated in John Nash's Classical Carlton House Terrace (1833) since 1968. With its entrance on The Mall, this extensive warren contains a cinema, auditorium, bookshop, art gallery, bar and restaurant. It also hosts concerts and lectures. A modest fee applies to non-members, providing all-day access to most exhibitions and events.



Institute of Contemporary Arts, Carlton House Terrace

12 St James's Park

SW1. **Map** 13 A4. **Tel** 0300 061 2350. St James's Park. **Open** 5am–midnight daily. **Open** daily. royalparks.org.uk

In summer, office workers sunbathe between the dazzling flowerbeds of the capital's most ornamental park. In winter, overcoated civil servants discuss affairs of state as they stroll by the lake and eye its resident ducks, geese and pelicans (who are fed at 2:30pm daily). Originally a marsh, the park was drained by Henry VIII and incorporated into his hunting grounds. On his return from exile in France, Charles II had it remodelled (probably by the French designer Andre Mollet) in the more continental style as pedestrian pleasure gardens, with an aviary along its southern edge (hence Birdcage Walk, the street where the aviary was). It is still a popular place to take the air, with an appealing view of Whitehall rooftops and an attractive central lake.

13 The Mall

SW1. **Map** 13 A4.  Charing Cross, Green Park, Piccadilly Circus.

This broad triumphal approach to Buckingham Palace was created by Aston Webb when he redesigned the front of the palace and the Victoria Monument in 1911. It follows the course of the old path at the edge of St James's Park, laid out in the reign of Charles II, when it became London's most fashionable promenade. Down both sides of The Mall national flags of foreign heads of state fly during official visits.

The annual London Marathon (see p60) finishes on The Mall, amid a mass of cheering crowds.

14 Marlborough House

Pall Mall SW1. **Map** 13 A4. **Tel** 020 7747 6491.  St James's Park, Green Park. **Open** only for group tours (min 15 people) by prior arrangement. www.thecommonwealth.org/marlborough-house



Marlborough House was designed by Christopher Wren (see p51) for the Duchess of Marlborough and completed in 1711. It was substantially enlarged in the 19th century and used by members of the

royal family. From 1863 until he became Edward VII in 1901, it was the home of the Prince and Princess of Wales and the social centre of London. An Art Nouveau memorial in the Marlborough Road wall of the house commemorates Edward's queen, Alexandra. The building now houses the Commonwealth Secretariat.



Queen's Chapel, built as a private place of worship for Charles I's Catholic queen

15 Queen's Chapel

Marlborough Rd SW1. **Map** 13 A4.  Green Park. **Open** for services only.  Easter–Jul: 8:30am & 11:15am Sun. www.royal.gov.uk

This exquisite work of the architect Inigo Jones was built for Charles I's French wife, Henrietta Maria, in 1627. Originally intended to be part of St James's Palace, it was the first Classical church in

England. George III married his queen, Charlotte of Mecklenburg-Strelitz (who gave him 15 children), here in 1761. The interior, with its glorious 17th-century fittings – both Grinling Gibbons and Wren contributed to the decoration – is wonderful. It is only open for Sunday services in spring and summer.

16 Green Park

SW1. **Map** 12 E4. **Tel** 0300 061 2350.  Green Park, Hyde Park Corner. www.royalparks.org.uk

Once part of Henry VIII's hunting grounds, this was, like St James's Park, adapted for public use by Charles II in the 1660s and is a natural, undulating landscape of grass and trees (with a fine spring show of daffodils). It was a favourite site for duels during the 18th century: in 1771 the poet Alfieri was wounded here by his mistress's husband, Viscount Ligonier, but then rushed back to the Haymarket Theatre in time to catch the last act of a play. Today the park is popular with joggers.

17 Buckingham Palace

See pp98–9.



The impressive former royal residence, Marlborough House

17 Buckingham Palace

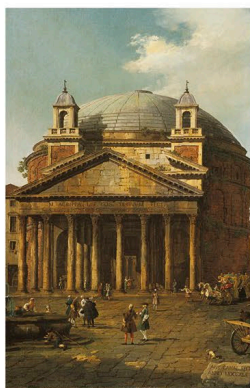
Buckingham Palace is both the office and official London residence of the British monarchy. It is also used for ceremonial state occasions, such as banquets for visiting heads of state. About 800 people work at the palace, including officers of the Royal Household and domestic staff.

John Nash converted the original Buckingham House into a palace for George IV (reigned 1820–30). Both he and his brother, William IV (reigned 1830–37), died before work was completed, and Queen Victoria was the first monarch to live at the palace. The present east front, facing The Mall, was added to Nash's conversion in 1913. The State Rooms are open to the public in summer.



Music Room

State guests are presented and royal christenings take place in this room, which boasts a beautiful, original parquet floor by Nash.



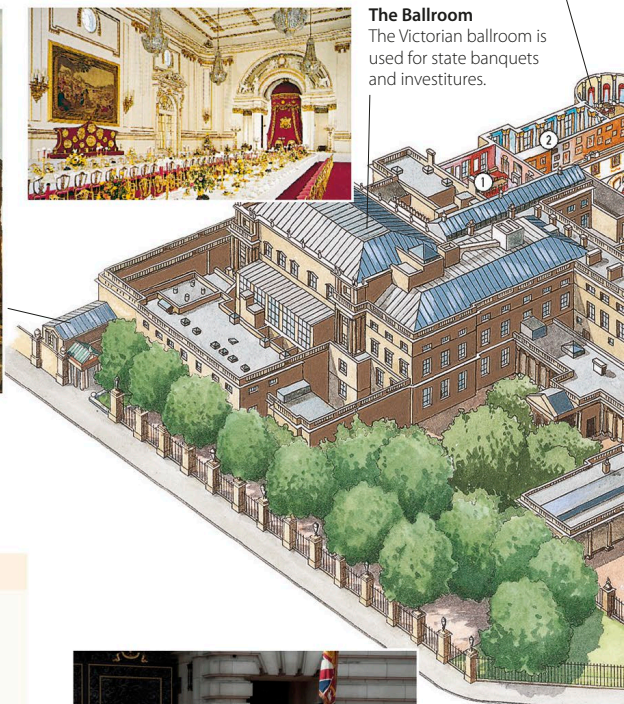
The Queen's Gallery

Artworks from the Royal Collection (see p100), such as Canaletto's *Rome: The Pantheon*, are often on display.



The Ballroom

The Victorian ballroom is used for state banquets and investitures.



KEY

- ① **The State Dining Room** is where meals that are less formal than state banquets are held.
- ② **The Blue Drawing Room** is decorated with imitation onyx columns, created by John Nash.
- ③ **The White Drawing Room** is where the royal family assemble before passing into the State Dining Room or Ballroom.
- ④ **The Green Drawing Room** is the first of the large and magnificent state rooms entered by guests of the Queen at royal functions.
- ⑤ **The Royal Standard** flies when the Queen is in residence.



Changing the Guard

Visitors can witness the Buckingham Palace grounds guard handing over duty regularly throughout the year in a colourful royal military ceremony (see pp56–9).

Who Lives in Buckingham Palace?

The palace is the London residence of the Queen and her husband, the Duke of Edinburgh. The Princess Royal, the Duke of York and the Earl of Wessex also have apartments here. About 50 domestic staff have rooms in the palace. There are more staff homes situated in the Royal Mews (see p100).



VISITORS' CHECKLIST

Practical Information

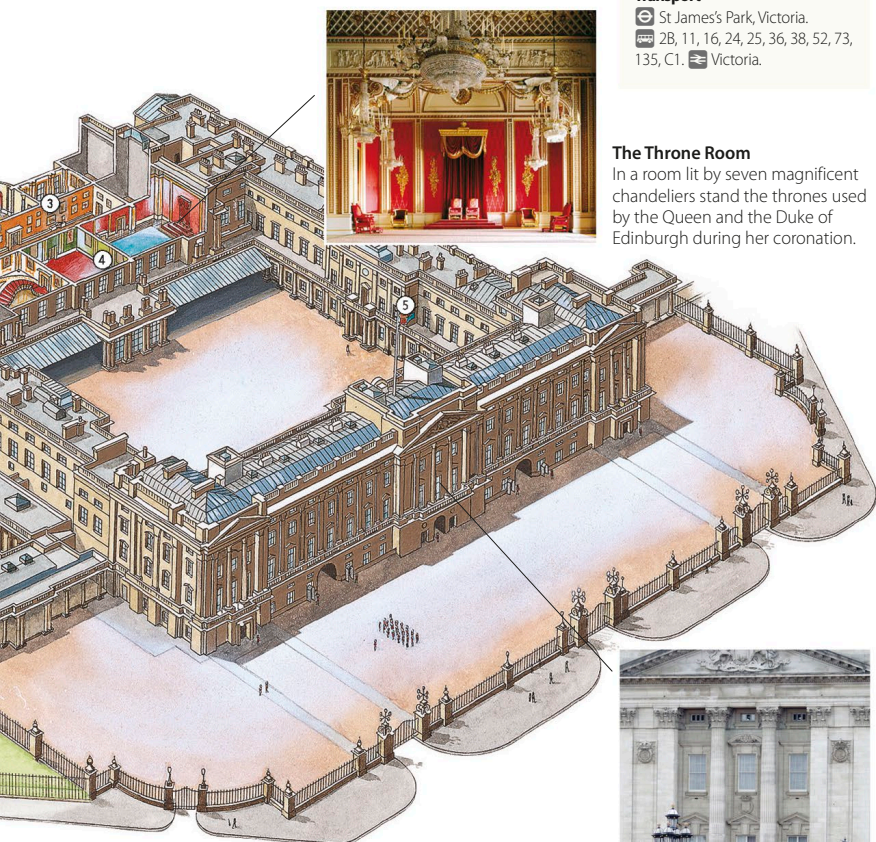
SW1. Map 12 F5. Tel 020 7766 7300. www.royalcollection.org.uk
 State rooms **Open** end July–end Aug: 9:15am–7:45pm daily (last adm: 5:15pm); Sep: 9:15am–6:45pm daily (last adm: 4:15pm).
 Changing the Guard: Apr–Jul: 11:30am daily; Aug–Mar: 11am Mon, Wed, Thu, Sun. Tickets not required. prebook on 0303 123 7324.

Transport

St James's Park, Victoria.
 2B, 11, 16, 24, 25, 36, 38, 52, 73, 135, C1. Victoria.

The Throne Room

In a room lit by seven magnificent chandeliers stand the thrones used by the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh during her coronation.



The garden is a haven for wildlife and is overlooked by most of the lavishly decorated state rooms at the back of the palace. It is also the venue for royal garden parties, where guests enjoy tea and cakes.



The palace balcony

Traditionally, the royal family waves to crowds from the balcony.

18 The Queen's Gallery

Buckingham Palace Rd SW1. **Map** 12 F5. **Tel** 020 7766 7734. St James's Park, Victoria. **Open** 10am–5:30pm daily (Aug & Sep: 9:30am–5:30pm; last adm: 4:15pm). **Closed** between exhibitions; call or check website. royalcollection.org.uk

The royal family possesses one of the finest and most valuable art collections in the world, rich in the work of old masters, including Vermeer and da Vinci. In 2002, the galleries were expanded in the most extensive addition to Buckingham Palace in 150 years, resulting in three and a half times more display space and an impressive entrance gallery with a striking columned portico.

The gallery has seven rooms, which host a rolling display programme of the Royal Collection's masterpieces. No items are on permanent display and changing exhibitions include fine art, porcelain, jewels, furniture and manuscripts.



Ceremonial harnesses and bridles on display at the Royal Mews

19 Royal Mews

Buckingham Palace Rd SW1. **Map** 12 E5. **Tel** 020 7766 7302. St James's Park, Victoria. **Open** Apr–Oct: 10am–5pm daily; Nov, Feb–Mar: 10am–4pm Mon–Sat. Subject to closure at short notice (check website). **Closed** Dec–Jan. royalcollection.org.uk

Fans of royal pomp will enjoy a visit to the Royal Mews. The stables and coach houses, designed by Nash in 1825, accommodate the horses and coaches used by the royal family on state occasions.

Star of the exhibit is the gold state coach built for George III in 1761, with fine panels by Giovanni Cipriani. Among the other vehicles are the Irish state coach, bought by Queen Victoria for the State Opening of Parliament; the open-topped 1902 royal landau, traditionally used to give the crowds the best view of newlywed royal couples; and the glass coach, also used for royal weddings. The newest coach is the Diamond Jubilee State Coach, built in 2012. Visitors may see carriages being prepared for use or limousines in action.

Some of the horses that pull the carriages are stabled in the mews and a guided tour includes a chance to view the 18th-century riding school where the horses are put through their paces. The elaborate harnesses the horses wear are also on display. There is also a shop selling royal souvenirs.

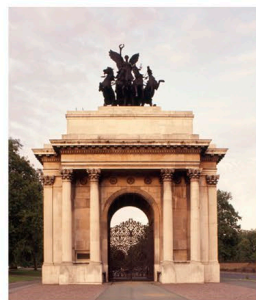
20 Wellington Arch

Hyde Park Corner SW1. **Map** 12 D4. **Tel** 020 7930 2726. Hyde Park Corner. **Open** daily; Apr–Sep: 10am–6pm; Oct: 10am–5pm; Nov–March: 10am–4pm. **Closed** 1 Jan, Good Fri, 24–26 & 31 Dec. joint ticket with Apsley House available. limited. english-heritage.org.uk

After nearly a century of debate about what to do with the patch of land in front of Apsley House, Wellington Arch, designed by Decimus Burton, was erected in 1828 (moved to

its current position in the 1880s). The sculpture, by Adrian Jones, was added in 1912. Before it was installed Jones seated three people for dinner in the body of one of the horses.

Exhibitions are held in the inner rooms of the arch. A viewing platform beneath the sculpture has great views over the royal parks and the gardens of Buckingham Palace.



Nike, winged goddess of victory, rides her chariot atop the Wellington Arch

21 Apsley House

Hyde Park Corner W1. **Map** 12 D4. **Tel** 020 7499 5676. Hyde Park Corner. **Open** Apr–Oct: 11am–5pm Wed–Sun; Nov–Mar: 10am–4pm Sat & Sun (but check dates on website). **Closed** 1 Jan, 24–26 Dec. joint ticket with Wellington Arch available. english-heritage.org.uk

Apsley House, or Number One London, as it is also known, at the southeast corner of Hyde Park, was completed by Robert Adam for Baron Apsley in 1778. Fifty years later it was enlarged and altered by the architect



Interior of Apsley House



The Rehearsal and Performance Room at the Handel & Hendrix in London

Benjamin Dean Wyatt to provide a grand home for the Duke of Wellington. His dual career as soldier and politician brought him victory against his arch-enemy Napoleon at Waterloo (1815) and two terms as prime minister (1828–30 and 1834). Against sumptuous silk hangings and gilt decoration is the duke's art collection: works by Goya, Velázquez, Titian and Rubens hang alongside displays of porcelain, silver and furniture. Ironically, the duke's memorabilia is dominated by Canova's colossal statue of Napoleon.

22 Shepherd Market

W1. **Map** 12 E4. Green Park.
 shepherdmarket.co.uk

This attractive and bijou pedestrianized enclave of small shops, restaurants and outdoor cafés, between Piccadilly and Curzon Street, was named after Edward Shepherd, who built it in the mid-18th century. During the 17th century, the annual 15-day May Fair (from which the name of the area is derived) took place on this site, and today Shepherd Market is still very much the centre of Mayfair.

23 Grosvenor Square

W1. **Map** 12 D2. Bond Street.

Mayfair has long been home to some of the grandest addresses in London, most notably in a

series of prestigious squares, originally laid out in the early 18th century and still retaining many Georgian buildings. Grosvenor Square is the largest, and has long had connections with the USA, ever since John Adams lived at No. 9 between 1785 and 1789. The west side is dominated by what was the US Embassy until 2017, when embassy staff moved to brand new headquarters south of the river. The Brutalist building, with its stone grid façade, was designed by US architect Eero Saarinen. A handsome statue of Franklin D. Roosevelt stands at the centre of the square.

24 Handel & Hendrix in London

25 Brook St W1. **Map** 12 E2.
Tel 020 7495 1685. Bond Street.
Open 11am–6pm Mon–Sat (to 8pm occasional Fri), noon–6pm Sun.
 handelhendrix.org

A pair of Georgian houses on Brook Street have a couple of notable, very different, musical connections. The composer George Frideric Handel lived at No. 25 from 1723 until his death in 1759, and his rooms have been restored to the early Georgian appearance they would have had during the composer's time, with portraits and musical instruments on display. The museum hosts changing exhibitions and regular recitals

in an intimate performance space. In 1968, Jimi Hendrix moved into the attic apartment next door. These rooms were then used as offices by the museum, but have now also been lovingly restored to resemble Hendrix's former apartment, complete with 1960s decor.

25 Faraday Museum

The Royal Institution, 21 Albemarle St W1. **Map** 12 F3. **Tel** 020 7409 2992.
 Green Park. **Open** 9am–6pm Mon–Fri. **Closed** 24 Dec–3 Jan. phone first. Lectures. rigb.org

Michael Faraday was a 19th-century pioneer of the uses of electricity. Part of the Royal Institution, a body dedicated to scientific study, the museum includes a re-creation of Faraday's laboratory and some of his scientific apparatus and personal effects, as well as exhibits on the work of other great scientists.



Michael Faraday



新春快樂

華物
民敏寺鐘

華香肯構陶公業

SOHO AND TRAFALGAR SQUARE

First developed in the late 17th century, Soho was renowned for the extravagant parties thrown by its residents. As the years have passed, Soho has consolidated its reputation as the West End's centre for clubs, pubs, restaurants and cafés, and is at the heart of central London's nightlife. Theatre buffs descend on the great playhouses of Shaftesbury Avenue and Charing Cross, while star-struck movie

fans crowd on Leicester Square after enjoying a bite to eat in nearby Chinatown.

But the area is not just for night owls; Trafalgar Square, with its historic architecture and monuments, is home to two of the city's most renowned galleries, the National Gallery, with its world-class collection of art, and the National Portrait Gallery, which showcases portraits of some of the country's prolific personalities.

Sights at a Glance

Historic Streets and Buildings

- 1 Trafalgar Square
- 2 Admiralty Arch
- 6 Leicester Square
- 8 Shaftesbury Avenue
- 9 Chinatown
- 10 Charing Cross Road
- 12 Soho Square
- 14 Carnaby Street

Shops and Markets

- 13 Berwick Street Market
- 15 Liberty

Churches

- 4 St Martin-in-the-Fields

Museums and Galleries

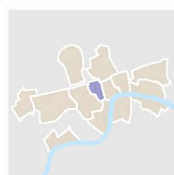
- 3 National Gallery pp108–11
- 5 National Portrait Gallery
- 16 Photographers' Gallery

Theatres

- 7 Theatre Royal Haymarket
- 11 Palace Theatre

Restaurants *see pp296–9*

- 1 Andrew Edmunds
- 2 Asia de Cuba
- 3 Barrafin
- 4 Bocca di Lupo
- 5 Brasserie Zedel
- 6 Dehesa
- 7 Gopal's of Soho
- 8 Haozhan
- 9 Inamo
- 10 Kulu Kulu Sushi
- 11 Mildred's
- 12 Nopi
- 13 Patara
- 14 Princi
- 15 The Portrait
- 16 Refuel
- 17 Soho Joe
- 18 Tokyo Diner
- 19 Vasco and Piero's Pavilion
- 20 Yalla Yalla
- 21 Yauatcha



Street Finder maps 11, 12, 13

Street-by-Street: Soho and Trafalgar Square

This area buzzes both day and night with crowds enjoying the numerous restaurants, cinemas, theatres and nightclubs. Broad avenues lined with regal office buildings converge at Trafalgar Square, a hub of the West End and popular meeting place for visitors to the city.



9 ★ Chinatown

Chinese lanterns adorn this small district packed with restaurants and shops.

Notre Dame, once a theatre, was converted into a church in 1855. The Jean Cocteau murals inside date from 1960.



The Blue Posts pub stands on the site of a pick-up point for sedan chairs in the 18th century.

Key

— Suggested route

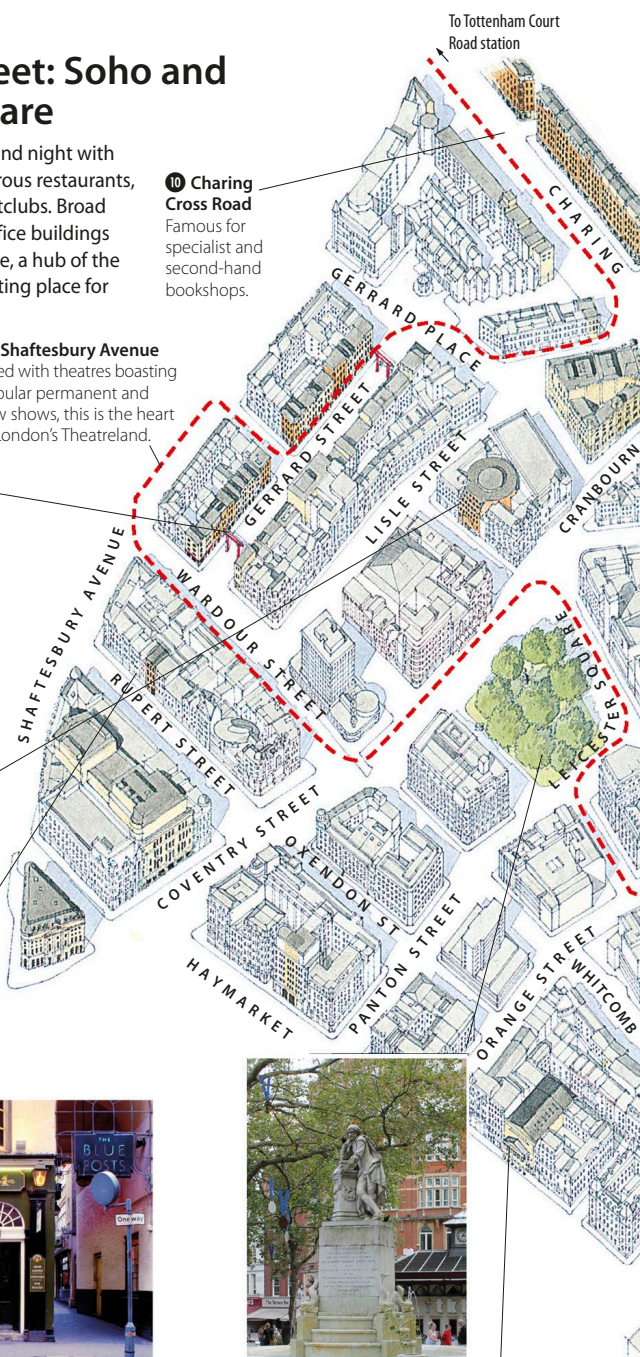
0 metres 100
0 yards 100

10 Charing Cross Road

Famous for specialist and second-hand bookshops.

8 Shaftesbury Avenue

Lined with theatres boasting popular permanent and new shows, this is the heart of London's Theatreland.



6 Leicester Square

A 19th-century statue of William Shakespeare overlooks the city's cinema district.

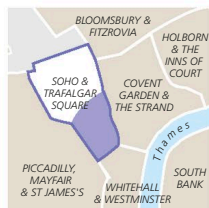
7 Theatre Royal Haymarket

It is graced by a John Nash portico.

The Hippodrome, a former nightclub, was once a variety theatre and is now a casino.



Cecil Court is lined with shops selling old books and prints.



Locator Map

See Central London Map pp16–17

Leicester Square station



4 ★ St Martin-in-the-Fields

James Gibbs's masterpiece inspired the US "colonial" style.



5 ★ National Portrait Gallery

Portraits of prominent Britons from Tudor times to the present-day adorn the walls here.



3 ★ National Gallery

Over 2,000 paintings are housed in this exceptional gallery.

The Fourth Plinth

The empty plinth in the corner of Trafalgar Square hosts changing pieces by leading contemporary artists.



1 ★ Trafalgar Square

Millions of tourists come here to admire the statues and the fountains.

2 ★ Admiralty Arch

The entrance to the Mall was designed in 1911.

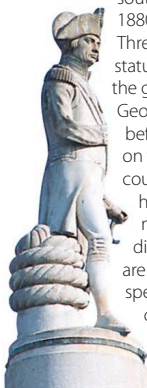
Nelson's Column



1 Trafalgar Square

WC2. **Map** 13 B3.  Charing Cross.

London's main venue for rallies and outdoor public meetings was conceived by John Nash and was mostly constructed during the 1830s. The 50-m (165-ft) column commemorates Admiral Lord Nelson, Britain's most famous sea lord, who died heroically at the Battle of Trafalgar in 1805. It dates from 1842; 14 stonemasons held a dinner on its flat top before the statue of Nelson was finally installed. Edwin Landseer's four lions guard its base. The north side of the square is now taken up by the National Gallery (see pp108–11), with Canada House on the west side and South Africa House on the east. The restored Grand Buildings on the south side were built in 1880 as the Grand Hotel. Three plinths support statues of the great and the good, including King George IV; funds ran out before the fourth plinth, on the northwest corner, could be filled. It now hosts one of London's most idiosyncratic art displays, as artworks are commissioned specially for it, and change each year.



Nelson's statue overlooking the square

2 Admiralty Arch

The Mall SW1. **Map** 13 B3.

 Charing Cross.

Designed in 1911, this triple archway was part of Aston Webb's scheme to rebuild The Mall as a grand processional route honouring Queen Victoria. The arch effectively seals the eastern end of The Mall, although traffic passes through the smaller side gates, and separates courtly London from the hurly-burly of Trafalgar Square. The central gate is opened only for royal processions. There are plans to turn the Grade I-listed building into a five-star hotel.



Filming *Howard's End* at Admiralty Arch





3 National Gallery

See pp108–11.


4 St Martin-in-the-Fields

Trafalgar Sq WC2. **Map** 13 B3.

Tel 020 7766 1100.  Charing Cross.

Open daily. **Closed** for sightseeing during services (at which all are welcome).  daily; check website for details as times vary.    London Brass Rubbing Centre **Open** 10am–6pm Mon–Wed, 10am–8pm Thu–Sat, 11:30am–5pm Sun (last brass rubbing entry 1 hr before close).

Concerts: See *Entertainment* p345.

 stmartin-in-the-fields.org


There has been a church on this site since the 13th century. Many famous people were buried here, including Charles II's mistress Nell Gwynne, and the painters William Hogarth and Joshua Reynolds. The present church was designed by James Gibbs and completed in 1726. In architectural terms it was one of the most influential ever built; it was much copied in the United States, where it became a model for the Colonial style of church-building. An unusual feature of St Martin's spacious interior is the royal box at gallery level on the left of the altar.








From 1914 until 1927 the crypt was used as a shelter for homeless soldiers and others; during World War II it was an air-raid shelter. Today it helps the homeless by providing a lunchtime soup kitchen. It also contains a café

in the crypt, a religious bookshop, and the London Brass Rubbing Centre. Lunchtime and evening concerts are held in the church and in the café.

5 National Portrait Gallery

2 St Martin's Place WC2. **Map** 13 B3.

Tel 020 7306 0055.  Leicester Sq, Charing Cross. **Open** 10am–6pm Sat–Wed, 10am–9pm Thu & Fri.

Closed 24–26 Dec.  for some special exhibitions.   shop entrance.    

 npg.org.uk

Too often ignored in favour of the National Gallery next door, this fascinating museum recounts Britain's development through portraits of its main characters, giving faces to the names familiar from history books. The gallery's millennium development project, the Ondaatje Wing, which opened in May 2000, created 50 per




Chandos portrait of William Shakespeare in the Tudor and Jacobean Galleries

cent more exhibition and public space. There are pictures of kings, queens, poets, musicians, artists, thinkers, heroes and villains from all periods since the late 14th century. The oldest works, on the top floor, include a Hans Holbein cartoon of Henry VIII and paintings of some of his wives. Other important early portraits include one of Shakespeare (attributed to John Taylor around 1600–1610) and the Ditchley portrait of Elizabeth I. The collection runs roughly chronologically from the top floor down, with figures from the worlds of art, pop and politics of the 20th century represented on the first floor. Recent commissions are on the ground floor, which is also used for temporary exhibitions, such as the annual BP Portrait Award.

The gallery has a rooftop restaurant and an excellent shop selling books on art and literature, as well as an extensive range of cards, prints and posters featuring artworks from the main collection.

6 Leicester Square

WC2. **Map** 13 B2.  Leicester Sq, Piccadilly Circus.



It is hard to imagine that this, the perpetually animated heart of the West End entertainment district, was once a fashionable place to live. Laid out in 1670 south of Leicester House, a long-gone royal residence, the square's occupants included the scientist Sir Isaac Newton and the artists Joshua Reynolds and William Hogarth. Reynolds made his fortune painting high society in his elegant salon at No. 46. Hogarth's house, in the southeast corner, became the *Hôtel de la Sablonière* in 1801, probably the area's first public restaurant.

In Victorian times, several popular music halls were established here, including the Empire (today the cinema on the same site perpetuates the name) and the Alhambra, replaced in 1937 by the Art Deco Odeon. A booth selling cut-price theatre tickets (see

p339) sits in the square. There is also a statue of Charlie Chaplin, which was unveiled in 1981. The Shakespeare statue dates from 1874.

Often crowded with visitors, the area around the Tube station can be very congested at times; the streets of Soho and Chinatown to the north can be a better bet for a meal or drink.

7 Theatre Royal Haymarket

Haymarket SW1. **Map** 13 A3. **Tel** 020 7930 8800.  Piccadilly Circus. **Open** performances and guided tours (phone to book).  trh.co.uk

The fine frontage of this theatre, with its portico of six Corinthian columns, dates from 1821, when John Nash designed it as part of his plan for a stately route from Carlton House to Regent's Park. The interior is equally grand.

8 Shaftesbury Avenue

W1. **Map** 13 A2.  Piccadilly Circus, Leicester Sq.

The main artery of London's theatreland, Shaftesbury Avenue has six theatres and three cinemas, all but one on its north side. This street was cut through an area of terrible slums between 1877 and 1886 in order to improve communications across the city's busy West End; it follows the route of a much earlier highway. It is named after the Earl of Shaftesbury (1801–85), whose attempts to improve housing conditions had helped some of the local poor. (The Earl is also commemorated by the Eros statue in Piccadilly Circus – see p94.) The Lyric Theatre, which was designed by C J Phipps, has been open for almost the same length of time as the avenue.



Multiplex cinemas, cafés and restaurants draw crowds to Leicester Square

3 National Gallery



The National Gallery has flourished since its inception in the early 19th century. In 1824 the House of Commons was persuaded to buy 38 major paintings, including works by Raphael and Rubens, and these became the start of a national collection. Today the collection comprises more than 2,300 paintings in the Western European painting tradition. The main gallery building was designed in Greek Revival style by William Wilkins and built in 1833–8. To its left lies the Sainsbury Wing, financed by the grocery family and completed in 1991.



★ The Burlington House Cartoon (c.1500)

The genius of Leonardo da Vinci glows through this chalk drawing of the Virgin and Child with St Anne and St John the Baptist.



Doge Leonardo Loredan (1501–2)

Giovanni Bellini portrays this Venetian head of state as a serene father figure.

★ The Baptism of Christ

Piero della Francesca painted this tranquil masterpiece of early Renaissance perspective (1450s) for a church in his native Umbria.



Pigott Education Centre entrance

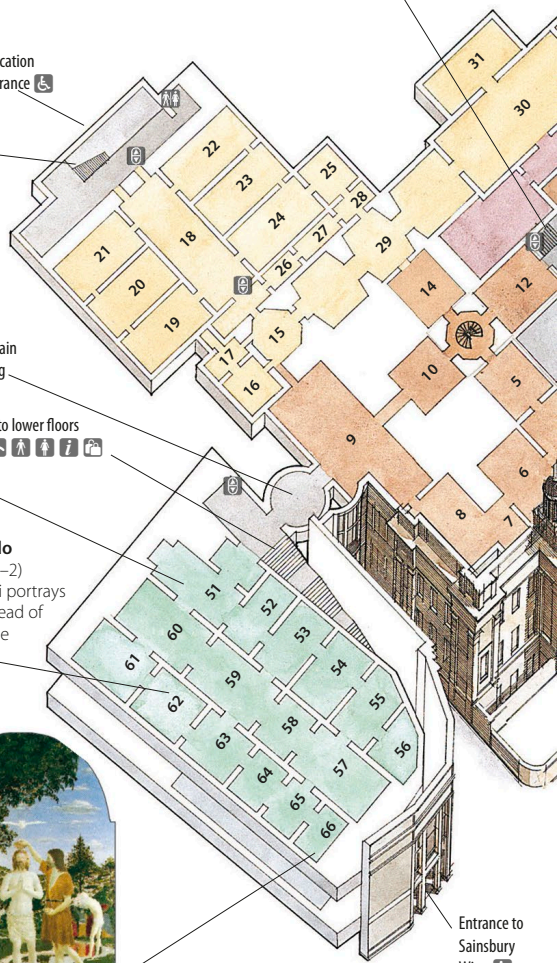
Stairs to lower floor

Link to main building

Stairs to lower floors

Stairs and lift to lower galleries

Entrance to Sainsbury Wing

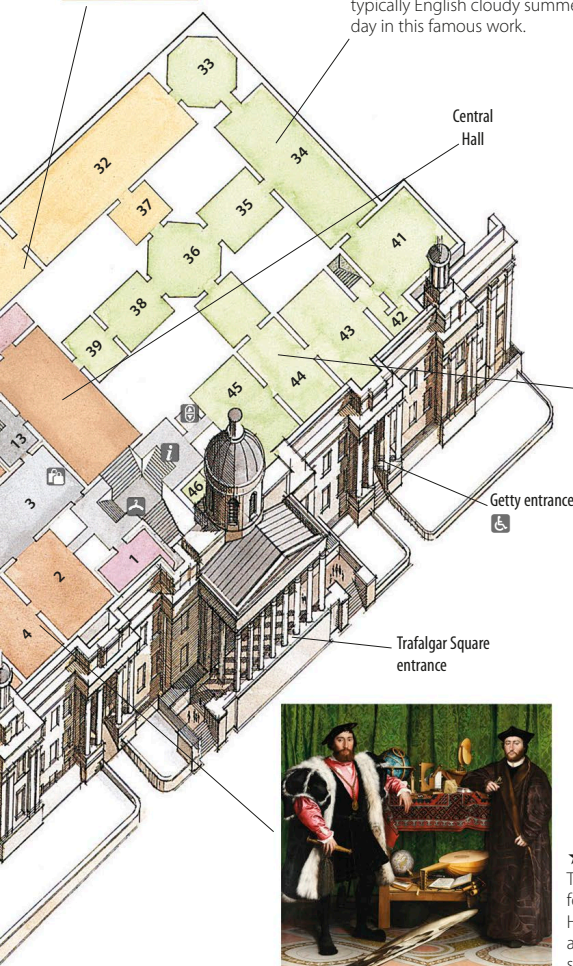




★ **Philip IV of Spain** (1631–2)
One of Diego Velázquez's few signed paintings and the principal portrait of the king from that period.



★ **The Hay Wain** (1821)
John Constable brilliantly caught the effect of distance and the changing light and shadow of a typically English cloudy summer day in this famous work.



VISITORS' CHECKLIST

Practical Information

Trafalgar Square WC2.

Map 13 B3.

Tel 020 7747 2885.

W nationalgallery.org.uk

Open 10am–6pm daily (9pm Fri).

Closed 24–26 Dec, 1 Jan. ☒

☒ Sainsbury Wing and Getty entrances. ☒ ☒ ☒ ☒ ☒ ☒

☒ Major temporary exhibitions.

Lectures, film presentations, exhibitions, special events.

Transport

☒ Charing Cross, Leicester Sq, Piccadilly Circus.

☒ 3, 6, 9, 11, 12, 13, 15, 23, 24, 29, 88, 91, 139, 159, 176, 453.

☒ Charing Cross.



At the Theatre (1876–7)

Renoir was one of the greatest painters of the Impressionist movement. The theatre was a popular subject among artists of the time.

★ The Ambassadors

The strange shape in the foreground of this Hans Holbein portrait (1533) is an anamorphic or distorted skull, a symbol of mortality.

Key to Floorplan

- 13th to 15th centuries
- 16th century
- 17th century
- 18th to early 20th centuries
- Special exhibitions
- Non-exhibition space

Gallery Guide

Most of the collection is housed on one floor divided into four wings. The paintings hang chronologically, with the earliest works (1250–1500) in the Sainsbury Wing. The North, West and East Wings cover 1500–1600, 1600–1700 and 1700–1900. Lesser paintings from all periods are on the lower floor.

Exploring the National Gallery

The National Gallery has over 2,300 paintings, most kept on permanent display. The collection comprises paintings in the Western European tradition from late-medieval times to the early 20th century by artists including Botticelli, Leonardo, Titian, Rembrandt, Velázquez, Monet and Van Gogh. The bulk of the British collections are in Tate Britain (see pp86–9), while Tate Modern specializes in international modern art (pp182–5).

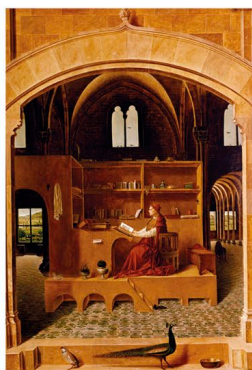
Early Renaissance (1250–1500): Italian and Northern European Painting

Three lustrous panels from the *Maestà*, Duccio's great altarpiece in Siena cathedral, are among the earliest paintings here. Other Italian works of the period include his outstanding *Madonna*.

The fine *Wilton Diptych* portraying England's Richard II is probably by a French artist. It displays the lyrical elegance of the International Gothic style that swept Europe.

Italian masters of this style include Pisanello and Gentile da Fabriano, whose *Madonna* often hangs beside another, by Masaccio – both date from the 1420s. Also shown are works by Masaccio's pupil, Fra Filippo Lippi, as well as Botticelli and Uccello. Umbrian paintings include Piero della Francesca's *Nativity* and *Baptism*, and there is an excellent collection of Mantegna, Bellini and other works from the Venetian and Ferrarese schools. Antonello da Messina's *St Jerome in his Study* has been mistaken for a Van Eyck; it is not hard to see why, when you compare it with Van Eyck's *Arnolfini Portrait*.

Important Netherlandish pictures, including some by Rogier van der Weyden and his followers, are also here, in the Sainsbury Wing.



St Jerome in his Study by Antonello da Messina (c.1475)

High Renaissance (1500–1600): Italian, Netherlandish and German Painting

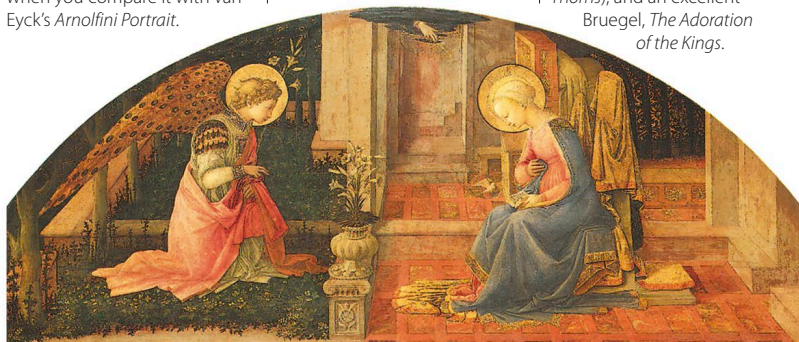
Sebastiano del Piombo's *The Raising of Lazarus* was painted, with Michelangelo's assistance, to rival Raphael's great *Transfiguration*, which hangs in



The Adoration of the Kings (1564) by Pieter Bruegel the Elder

the Vatican in Rome. These and other well-known names of the High (or Late) Renaissance are extremely well represented. Exquisite Raphaels include the famous *Madonna of the Pinks*, only identified in the 1990s and bought by the gallery for £22 million in 2004. Look out for Leonardo da Vinci's charcoal cartoon of the *Virgin and Child*, and his second version of the *Virgin of the Rocks*. There are also tender and amusing works by Piero di Cosimo, and several Titians, including *Bacchus and Ariadne* – which the public found too bright and garish when it was first cleaned by the gallery in the 1840s.

The Netherlandish and German collections are weaker. Even so, they include *The Ambassadors*, a fine double portrait by Holbein; and Altdorfer's superb *Christ Taking Leave of his Mother*, bought by the gallery in 1980. There is also a Hieronymus Bosch of *Christ Mocked* (sometimes known as *The Crowning with Thorns*), and an excellent Bruegel, *The Adoration of the Kings*.



The Annunciation (early 1450s) by Fra Filippo Lippi

The Sainsbury Wing

This extension was built in 1991 to house the National Gallery's world-class collection of early Renaissance paintings, where they remain today. Plans for the Sainsbury Wing provoked a storm of dissent and the final building, by Robert Venturi, drew much criticism.

Major temporary exhibitions are held here – check the gallery's website for details. Visitors can also find the aforementioned permanent collections on the Italian Renaissance.



Dutch, Italian, French and Spanish Painting (1600–1700)

The superb Dutch collection gives much of two rooms to Rembrandt. There are also works by Vermeer, Van Dyck (among them his equestrian portrait of King Charles I) and Rubens (including the popular *Chapeau de Paille*).

From Italy, the works of Carracci and Caravaggio are strongly represented, and Salvator Rosa has a glowering portrait entitled *Philosophy*.

French works on show include a magnificent portrait of Cardinal Richelieu by Philippe de Champaigne. Claude's seascape *Seaport with the Embarkation of the Queen of Sheba* hangs beside Turner's rival painting *Dido Building Carthage*, as Turner himself had instructed.

The Spanish collection has works by Murillo, Velázquez, Zurbarán and others.



Young Woman Standing at a Virginal (1670–72) by Jan Vermeer



The Scale of Love (1715–18) by Jean-Antoine Watteau

Venetian, French and English Painting (1700–1800)

One of the gallery's most famous 18th-century works is Canaletto's *The Stonemason's Yard*. Other Venetians here are Longhi and Tiepolo. The French collection includes Rococo masters such as Chardin, Watteau and Boucher.

Gainsborough's early work *Mr and Mrs Andrews* and *The Morning Walk* are favourites with visitors; his rival, Sir Joshua Reynolds, is represented by several of the portraits that secured his reputation. Hogarth's satirical *Marriage à-la-mode* series is another highlight.

English, French and German Painting (1800–1900)

The great age of 19th-century landscape painting is amply represented here, with fine works by Constable and Turner, including Constable's *The Hay Wain* and Turner's *The Fighting*

Temeraire, as well as works by the French artists Corot and Daubigny.

Of Romantic art, there are Géricault's vivid works, *Horse Frightened by Lightning* and *A Shipwreck*, which possibly prefigures his *The Raft of the Medusa*. In contrast, the society portrait of *Madame Moitessier* by Ingres, though still Romantic, is more restrained and Classical.

Impressionists and other French avant-garde artists are well represented. Among the highlights are *The Water-Lily Pond* by Monet, Renoir's *At the Theatre* and Van Gogh's *Sunflowers*, not to mention one of Rousseau's famous jungle scenes, *Surprised!*, in which a tiger stalks explorers. In Seurat's *Bathers at Asnières* he did not originally use the pointillist technique he was later to invent, but subsequently reworked areas of the picture using dots of colour.



Sunflowers (1888) by Vincent van Gogh

9 Chinatown

Streets around Gerrard St W1. **Map** 13 A2. Leicester Sq, Piccadilly Circus. chinatownlondon.org

There has been a Chinese community in London since the 19th century. Originally it was concentrated around the East End docks at Limehouse, where the opium dens of Victorian melodrama were sited. As the number of immigrants increased in the 1950s, many moved into Soho, where they created an ever-expanding Chinatown. It contains scores of restaurants and aroma-filled shops selling oriental produce. Three Chinese arches straddle Gerrard Street, where a vibrant, colourful street festival, held in late January or early February, celebrates Chinese New Year (see p63).



Rows of jars containing Chinese sweets in Chinatown

10 Charing Cross Road

WC2. **Map** 13 B2. Leicester Sq. See *Shops and Markets* pp316–17.

Once London's favourite street for book lovers, with a clutch of shops that were able to supply just about any recent volume, many of Charing Cross Road's independent bookshops have been forced to shut due to rising rents. Several smaller, second-hand bookshops remain, however, including Quinto & Francis Edwards (see p326), which specializes in antiquarian books, and a good handful in nearby Cecil Court. At the junction with New Oxford Street rises the 1960s Centrepont tower. This junction is one of the key sites for the huge Crossrail underground rail project, so expect traffic disruption.

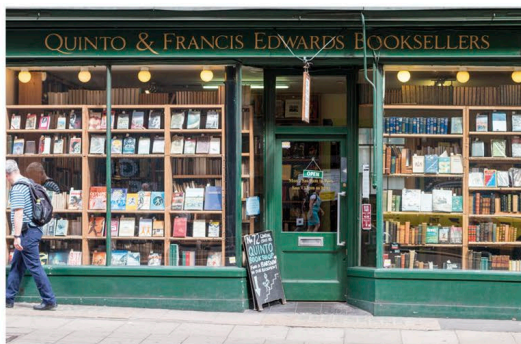


Poster for the Palace Theatre, 1898

11 Palace Theatre

Shaftesbury Ave W1. **Map** 13 B2. **Tel** Box office 0330 333 4813. Leicester Sq. **Open** for performances only. See *Entertainment* pp340–41. nimaxtheatres.com/palace-theatre

Most West End theatres are disappointingly unassuming. This one, which dominates the west side of Cambridge Circus, is a splendid exception, with its terracotta exterior and opulent furnishings. Completed as an opera house in 1891, it became a music hall the following year. Now the theatre stages hit shows such as *Spamalot* and *The Commitments*; in 2016 it premiered the eagerly awaited *Harry Potter and the Cursed Child*, based on a new J K Rowling story.



Quinto & Francis Edwards on Charing Cross Road

12 Soho Square

W1. **Map** 13 A1. Tottenham Court Rd.

Soon after it was laid out in 1681 this square enjoyed a brief reign as the most fashionable address in London. Originally it was called King Square, after Charles II, whose statue was erected in the middle. The square had gone out of fashion by the late 18th century. Now surrounded by bland office buildings, the patches of green attract scores of picnicking Soho office workers at lunchtimes.

13 Berwick Street Market

W1. **Map** 13 A1. Piccadilly Circus. **Open** 8am–6pm Mon–Sat. See *Shops and Markets* p335. berwickstreetlondon.co.uk/the-market/

There has been a market here since the late 18th century. It was a Berwick Street trader, Jack Smith, who introduced grapefruit to London in 1890. Today this is the West End's best street market (although the traditional traders could be under threat with development taking place on the west side of Berwick Street). There are also some interesting shops and a growing number of cafés and restaurants. At its southern end the street narrows into an alley on which the famous strip club Raymond Revuebar (the comparatively respectable face of Soho sleaze) presented its "festival of erotica" from 1958 to 2004.

14 Carnaby Street

W1. Map 12 F2. Oxford Circus.

During the 1960s this street was so much the hub of swinging London that the Oxford English Dictionary recognized the term "Carnaby Street" as meaning "fashionable clothing for young people". Today fashion shops can also be found on nearby streets such as Kingly Court and Fouberts Place.

15 Liberty

Regent St W1. Map 12 F2. Tel 020 7734 1234. Oxford Circus. See *Shops and Markets* p317. liberty.co.uk

Arthur Lasenby Liberty opened his first shop, selling oriental silks, on Regent Street in 1875.



Liberty's mock-Tudor façade

Among his first customers were the artists Ruskin and Rossetti. Soon Liberty prints and designs, by artists such as William Morris, epitomized the Arts and Crafts movement of the late 19th and early 20th centuries and they are still fashionable today.

The purpose-built mock-Tudor building with its country-house feel dates from 1925.

Today the shop maintains its strong links with top quality craftsmanship of all kinds.

16 Photographers' Gallery

16-18 Ramillies St W1. Map 12 F1. Tel 020 7087 9300. Oxford Circus. Open 10am–6pm Mon–Sat (till 8pm Thu), 11am–6pm Sun during exhibitions. after noon. thephotographersgallery.org.uk

This gallery exhibits work from both new and well-known photographers, as well as staging regular talks and events. The bookshop also sells cameras and prints.

The Heart of Soho

Old Compton Street is Soho's high street. Its shops and restaurants reflect the variety of people who have lived in the area over the centuries. These include many great artists, writers and musicians.

Ronnie Scott's opened in 1959, and nearly all the big names of jazz have played here (see pp347–9).

Algerian Coffee Stores is one of Soho's oldest shops. Delicious aromas of the world's coffees fill the shop.

Bar Italia is a coffee shop situated under the room where John Logie Baird first demonstrated television in 1926. As a child, Mozart stayed next door with his family in 1764 and 1765.

Maison Bertaux is known for producing delicious croissants and coffee and wonderful cakes.

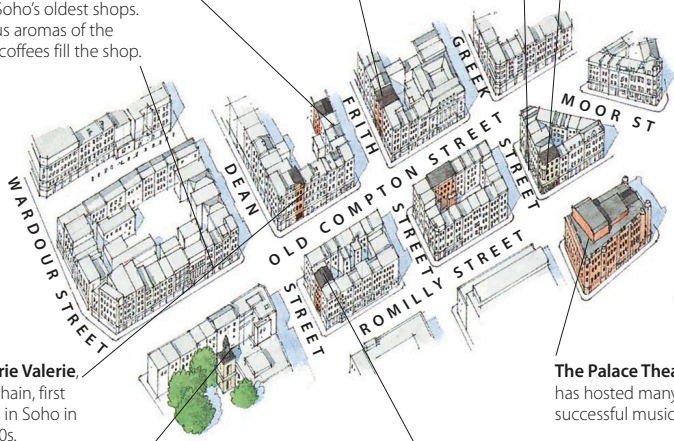
The Coach and Horses pub has been a centre of bohemian Soho since the 1950s and is still popular.

Patisserie Valerie, now a chain, first opened in Soho in the 1920s.

St Anne's Church Tower is all that remains after a bomb destroyed the church in 1940.

The French House was frequented by Maurice Chevalier and General de Gaulle.

The Palace Theatre has hosted many successful musicals.





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THEatre of the West End

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COVENT GARDEN AND THE STRAND

The site of a convent garden in medieval times, Covent Garden was laid out as an Italianate piazza in the 1630s by Inigo Jones, whose St Paul's Church still dominates the west side. The Piazza has been home to a market, in one form or another, since 1656. The elegant hall at its centre, dating from the 1830s, housed a produce market until 1974; now it is a bustling tourist magnet of shops, craft stalls and

restaurants. The surrounding cobbled streets give the neighbourhood real charm, with traditional pubs tucked down alleyways and designer shops in converted warehouses. Particularly appealing are Neal's Yard, Floral Street and Seven Dials. Covent Garden is also synonymous with the Royal Opera House, while a parade of West End theatres lines the Strand and St Martin's Lane.

Sights at a Glance

Historic Streets and Buildings

- 1 The Piazza and Central Market
- 7 Neal Street and Neal's Yard
- 12 Savoy Hotel
- 14 Somerset House
- 16 Roman Bath
- 17 Bush House
- 20 Adelphi
- 21 Charing Cross

Museums and Galleries

- 3 London Transport Museum

Churches

- 2 St Paul's Church
- 13 Savoy Chapel
- 15 St Mary-le-Strand

Monuments and Statues

- 9 Seven Dials
- 18 Cleopatra's Needle

Famous Theatres

- 5 Theatre Royal Drury Lane
- 6 Royal Opera House
- 10 Wyndham's Theatre
- 11 Adelphi Theatre
- 22 The London Coliseum

Parks and Gardens

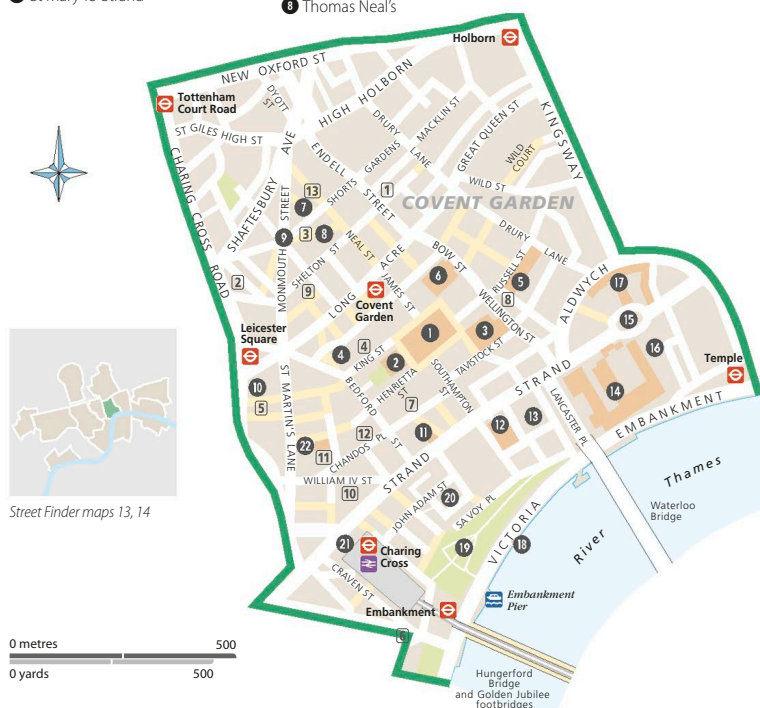
- 19 Victoria Embankment Gardens

Historic Pubs and Shopping Arcades

- 4 Lamb and Flag
- 8 Thomas Neal's

Restaurants *see pp296-9*

- 1 The 10 Cases
- 2 Atelier de Joël Robuchon
- 3 Belgo Centraal
- 4 Clos Maggiore
- 5 J Sheekey
- 6 The Northall
- 7 Rules
- 8 Sagar
- 9 Suda Thai
- 10 Terroirs
- 11 Thai Pot
- 12 Wahaca
- 13 Wild Food Café



Street Finder maps 13, 14

Street-by-Street: Covent Garden

Once an area of decaying streets and warehouses, Covent Garden came alive only when the fruit and vegetable market traders went about their business. After the market moved out in the 1970s, the area was renovated. Now, visitors, residents and street entertainers throng the Piazza, much as they would have done centuries ago.

1 ★ Neal Street and Neal's Yard

A bright and colourful area of shops and cafés.



8 Thomas Neal's

This airy complex houses designer shops and the Donmar theatre.

9 Seven Dials

A replica of a 17th-century monument marks the junction.



Ching Court is a Post-Modernist courtyard by architect Terry Farrell.

St Martin's Theatre is home to the world's longest-running play: *The Mousetrap*.



Stanfords, established in 1852, is the largest map and guide retailer in the world (see pp326–7).

4 Lamb and Flag

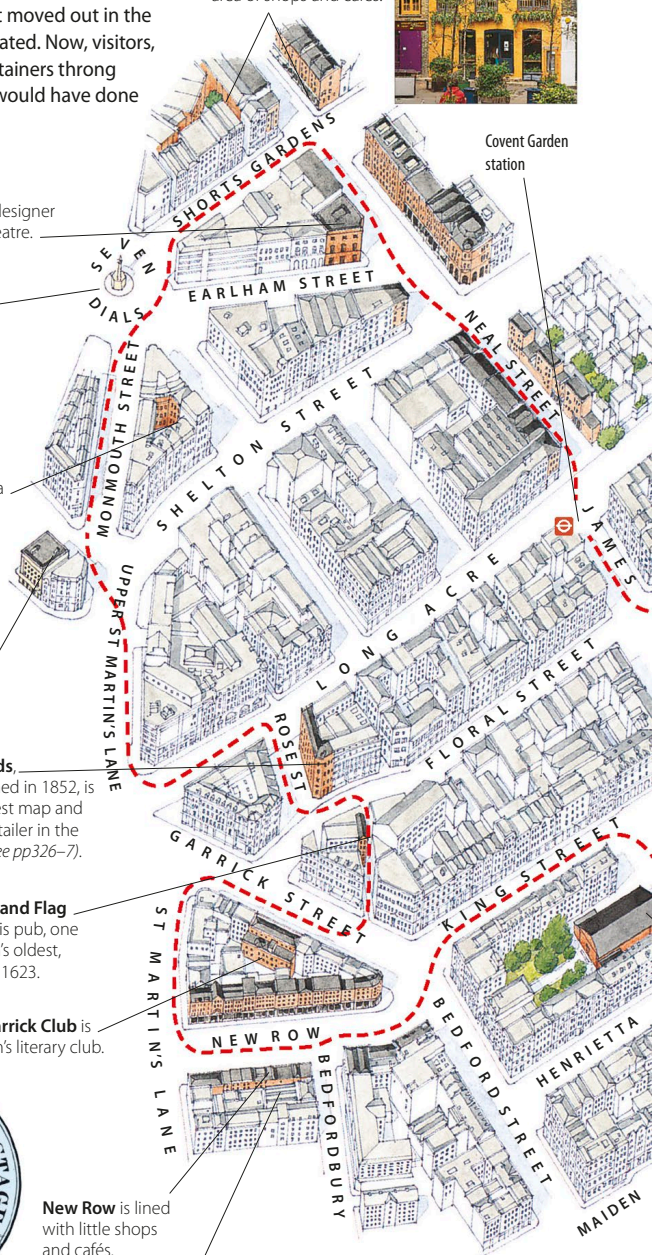
Parts of this pub, one of London's oldest, date from 1623.

The Garrick Club is London's literary club.



New Row is lined with little shops and cafés.

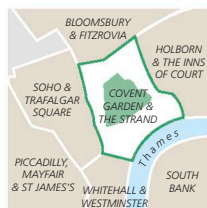
Goodwin's Court is a charming, albeit small, alley lined with former Georgian shops.





1 ★ The Piazza and Central Market

Performers of all kinds – jugglers, clowns, acrobats and musicians – entertain the crowds in the square.



Locator Map

See Central London Map pp16–17

6 Royal Opera House

Many of the world's greatest classical singers and dancers have appeared on its stage.

Bow Street Police Station housed London's first police force, the Bow Street Runners, in the 18th century. It closed in 1992.



5 ★ Theatre Royal Drury Lane

A theatre has stood on this site since 1663, making it London's oldest theatre. The present theatre was built in 1812. It is owned by composer Andrew Lloyd Webber and stages popular musicals.

Boswells, now a coffee house, is where Dr Johnson first met his biographer, James Boswell.

3 ★ London Transport Museum

The history of the city's transport system is brought to life in this museum.



Jubilee Market sells clothes and bric-a-brac.

Key

— Suggested route

0 metres 100
0 yards 100



Rules is frequented by the rich and famous for its typically English food.



2 ★ St Paul's Church

Despite appearances, Inigo Jones's church faces away from the Piazza – the entrance is through the churchyard.

1 The Piazza and Central Market

Covent Garden WC2. **Map** 13 C2.

📍 Covent Garden. 🚶 but cobbled streets. Street performers 10am–dusk daily. See *Shops and Markets* p319.

🌐 coventgarden.london

The 17th-century architect Inigo Jones originally planned this area to be an elegant residential square, modelled on the piazza of Livorno in northern Italy. Today the buildings on and around the Piazza are almost entirely Victorian. The covered central market was designed by Charles Fowler in 1833 for fruit and vegetable wholesalers, the glass and iron roof anticipating the giant rail termini built later in the century – for instance, St Pancras (see p134) and Waterloo (see p195). It now makes a magnificent shell for an array of small shops selling designer clothes, books, arts, crafts, decorative items and antiques, surrounded by bustling market stalls that continue south in the neighbouring Jubilee Hall, which was built in 1903.

The colonnaded Bedford Chambers, on the north side, gives a hint of Inigo Jones's plan, although even they are not original: they were rebuilt and partially modified in 1879.

Street entertainment is a well-loved tradition in the area; in 1662, diarist Samuel Pepys wrote of watching a Punch and Judy show under the portico of St Paul's Church.



A young street performer



West entrance to St Paul's

2 St Paul's Church

Bedford St WC2. **Map** 13 C2. **Tel** 020

7836 5222. 📍 Covent Garden. **Open**

8:30am–5pm Mon–Fri, some Sats depending on events, 9am–1pm Sun.

🕒 1:20pm Tue & Wed, 11am Sun, 2nd Sun of the month 4pm evensong.

📞 🌐 actorschurch.org

Inigo Jones built this church (completed in 1633) with the altar at the west end, so as to allow his grand portico, with its two square and two round columns, to face east into the Piazza. Clerics objected to this unorthodox arrangement, and the altar was moved to its conventional position at the east end. Jones went ahead with his original exterior design. Thus the church is entered from the west, and the east portico is a fake door, used now as an impromptu stage for street entertainers. In 1795, the interior was destroyed by fire but

was rebuilt in Jones's airy, uncomplicated style. Today the church is all that is left of Jones's original plan for the Piazza. St Paul's is known as

"The Actors' Church" and plaques commemorate distinguished men and women of the theatre. A 17th-century carving by Grinling Gibbons on the west screen is a memorial to the architect.

3 London Transport Museum

The Piazza WC2. **Map** 13 C2. **Tel** 020

7379 6344. 📍 Covent Garden.

Open 10am–6pm Sat–Thu,

11am–6pm Fri (last adm: 5:15pm).

📞 📺 📺 📺 📺 📺 book ahead.

🌐 ltmuseum.co.uk

You do not have to be a train spotter or a collector of bus numbers to enjoy this museum. The intriguing collection is housed in the picturesque Victorian Flower Market, which was built in 1872, and features public transport from the past and present.


The history of London's transport is in essence a social history of the capital. Bus, tram and underground route patterns first reflected the city's growth and then promoted it; the northern and western suburbs began to develop only after their Tube connections were built. The museum houses a fine collection of 20th-century commercial art. London's bus and train companies have long been prolific patrons of contemporary artists, and copies of some of the finest posters on display can be bought at the well-stocked museum shop. They include the innovative Art Deco designs of E McKnight Kauffer, as well as work by renowned artists of the 1930s, such as Graham Sutherland and



A mid-18th-century view of the Piazza

Paul Nash. This museum is excellent for children (and they can enter free of charge). There are plenty of hands-on exhibits, including a London bus and an Underground train that children can climb aboard and pretend to drive.

4 Lamb and Flag



33 Rose St WC2. **Map** 13 B2. **Tel** 020 7497 9504.  Covent Garden, Leicester Sq. **Open** 11am–11pm Mon–Sat, noon–10:30pm Sun. *See Pubs and Bars p313.*

There has been an inn here since the 16th century, making the Lamb and Flag the oldest tavern in Covent Garden. Tucked away next to a narrow alleyway linking Garrick Street with Floral Street, the cramped bars are still largely unmodernized.

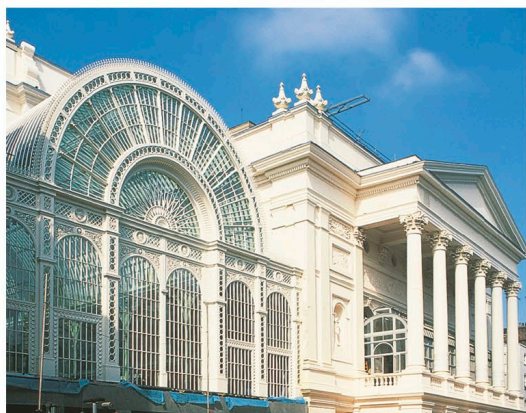
A plaque concerns satirist John Dryden, who was attacked in the alley outside in 1679. He was set upon by hooligans sent by Charles II to uphold the honour of the Duchess of Portsmouth, one of his mistresses. Dryden had lampooned her in his verse. The upstairs bar is named after Dryden.

The pub is popular with both city centre workers and in-the-know tourists, who spill out into the alleyway.

5 Theatre Royal Drury Lane

Catherine St WC2. **Map** 13 C2. **Tel** Box office 0844 412 4660; tours 0844 412 2957.  Covent Garden, Holborn. **Open** for tours and performances.  *See Entertainment p340*  reallyusefultheatres.co.uk



The first theatre on this site was built in 1663 as one of only two venues in London where drama could legally be staged. Nell Gwynne acted here. Three of the theatres built here since then burned down, including one designed by Sir Christopher Wren (*see p51*). The present structure, by Benjamin Wyatt, was completed in 1812 and has one of the city's largest auditoriums. In the 1800s, it was famous for pantomimes – now



The Floral Hall, part of the Royal Opera House

it stages blockbuster musicals. It is called the Theatre Royal Drury Lane even though its entrance is on Catherine Street.

6 Royal Opera House


Covent Garden WC2. **Map** 13 C2. **Tel** 020 7304 4000.  Covent Garden. **Open** for tours and performances (phone to check). *See Entertainment p344.*  roh.org.uk

Built in 1732, the first theatre on this site served as more of a playhouse, although many of Handel's operas and oratorios were premiered here. Like its neighbour the Theatre Royal Drury Lane, the building proved prone to fire and burned down in 1808 and again in 1856. The present opera house was designed in 1858 by E M Barry. John Flaxman's portico frieze, depicting tragedy and comedy, survived from the previous building of 1809.

The Opera House has had both high and low points during its history. In 1892, the first British performance of Wagner's Ring was conducted here by Gustav Mahler. Later, during World War I, the building was used as a storehouse by the government. Today, it is home to the Royal Opera and Royal Ballet companies – the best tickets can cost over £100 (though restricted-view tickets up in the "slips" can be had for as

little as £10). An extensive renovation project, completed in 1999, added a second auditorium, along with rehearsal rooms for the Royal Opera and Royal Ballet companies. Backstage tours are available.

7 Neal Street and Neal's Yard

Covent Garden WC2. **Map** 13 B1.  Covent Garden. *See Shops and Markets p319.*

In this attractive street, former warehouses dating from the 19th century can be identified by the hoisting mechanisms high on their exterior walls. The buildings have been converted into shops and restaurants. Off Neal Street in Short's Gardens is Neal's Yard Dairy, one of London's best cheese shops. Nearby, Neal's Yard itself is a bright and cheerful courtyard of independent restaurants and shops, most displaying vividly painted façades.



A specialist shop on Neal Street



Entrance to Thomas Neal's

8 Thomas Neal's

Earlham St WC2. **Map** 13 B2.

☞ Covent Garden, Leicester Sq.

Open 10am–7pm Mon–Sat (till 8pm Thu), noon–6pm Sun (individual shop times vary). ☞ ground floor only.

Located in an old converted banana warehouse, this upscale shopping complex offers an interesting range of shops, selling designer streetwear, cosmetics, jewellery and accessories. The Donmar Warehouse theatre (see p342) is also part of the complex, staging must-see productions such as *Coriolanus*.

9 Seven Dials

Monmouth St WC2. **Map** 13 B2.

☞ Covent Garden, Leicester Sq.

The pillar at this junction of seven streets incorporates six sundials (the central spike acted as a seventh). It was installed in 1989 and is a copy of a 17th-century monument. The original was removed in the 19th century because it had become a notorious meeting place for criminals, who operated in an area that had become one of London's most infamous slums.

Today Seven Dials is a vibrant shopping and dining area. The cobbled streets and charming hidden courtyards make the neighbourhood particularly attractive to wander around. Its streets and alleyways are known for one-off shops, boutiques, high-end cosmetics stores, restaurants and bars.

10 Wyndham's Theatre

32 Charing Cross Rd, WC2. **Map** 13 B2.

Tel 0871 976 0072. ☞ Leicester Square.

Open for performances only.

☞ wyndhamstheatre.co.uk

See Entertainment pp340–41.

Wyndham's Theatre opened its doors in 1899 and takes its name from Charles Wyndham (1837–1919) – lauded as one of the greatest actors of his day. Designed by the architect William Sprague, the Wyndham was the first of seven theatres he completed that year.

It boasts a Portland stone exterior and a turquoise, cream and gold interior decorated in Louis XVI style, with a ceiling painted in the style of Boucher.

Many greats of British theatre have graced the stage since Wyndham himself: Vanessa Redgrave, Sir Alec Guinness and Sir John Gielgud among them. It has also seen such talents as Dame Judi Dench in *Madame de Sade* and Jude Law as Hamlet.

11 Adelphi Theatre

Strand WC2. **Map** 13 C3. **Tel** 020 3725

7060. ☞ Charing Cross, Embankment.

Open performances only. ☞

reallyusefultheatres.co.uk

See Entertainment pp340–41.

There has been a theatre on this site since 1806, when the Sans Pareil Theatre opened here. It was set up by John Scott, a wealthy tradesman, who was helping to launch his daughter on the stage. After several refurbishments and name changes, the current Adelphi Theatre was remodelled in 1930 in Art Deco style by Ernest Schaufelburg. His modernist "straight-line" design resulted in a building without curves. Note the highly distinctive lettering on the frontage, and the well-kept lobby and auditorium, with their stylized motifs.

The Adelphi now stages a variety of plays and musicals from *The Bodyguard*, featuring the music of the late Whitney Houston, to *Kinky Boots*, with a musical score by pop legend Cyndi Lauper.

12 Savoy Hotel

Strand WC2. **Map** 13 C2. **Tel** 020 7836

4343. ☞ Charing Cross, Embankment.

☞ fairmont.com/savoy

Pioneer of en-suite bathrooms and electric lighting, the grand Savoy was built in 1889 on the site of the medieval Savoy Palace. A £100 million lavish refurbishment took place in 2008–2010, incorporating both the original Edwardian and the later Art Deco style. The forecourt is the only street in Britain where traffic drives on the right. Attached to the hotel are the Savoy Theatre built for the D'Oyly Carte opera, famed for performing the operas of Gilbert and Sullivan, and the Simpson's-in-the-Strand English restaurant.



Strand entrance to the Savoy Hotel

13 Savoy Chapel

Strand WC2. **Map** 13 C2. **Tel** 020

7836 7221. ☞ Charing Cross,

Embankment. **Open** 9am–4pm

Mon–Thu. **Closed** Aug–Sep. ☞ 11am

Sun. ☞ ☞ phone to book. ☞

royalchapelsof.org

The first Savoy Chapel was founded in the 16th century as the chapel for the hospital set up by Henry VII on the site of the old Savoy Palace. Parts of the outside walls date from 1512, but most of the present building dates from the mid-19th century. In 1890, it was London's first church to be electrically lit. It became the chapel of the Royal Victorian Order in 1937, and is the Queen's private chapel now. Nearby on Savoy Hill were the first studios of the BBC.

14 Somerset House

Strand WC2. **Map** 14 D2. **Tel** 020 7845 4600. ☺ Temple. Gallery & House

Open 10am–6pm daily (last adm to galleries 5:30pm). **Closed** 1 Jan, 24–26 Dec. 🗺 free guided tours Tue, Thu and Sat. Ice rink: **Open** 2 months in winter. 📞 call 0844 847 1520 for tickets. 🌐 somersethouse.org.uk

Courtauld Institute of Art Gallery:

Tel 020 7848 2777. 🗺 📞 🌐 📺 📺

🌐 courtauld.ac.uk Embankment

Galleries: 🗺 📺 Tom's Kitchen:

Tel 020 7845 4646.

This elegant Georgian building was the creation of Sir William Chambers. It was erected in the 1770s after the first Somerset House, a Renaissance palace built for the Duke of Somerset in the mid-16th century, was pulled down following years of neglect. The replacement was the first major building to be designed for use as government offices and has served to house the Navy Board (note that the classical grandeur of the Seamen's Waiting Hall and Nelson's Staircase are not to be missed), a succession of Royal Societies and, for a long time, the Inland Revenue. Today it is

home to the Courtauld Institute of Art and its Gallery. The courtyard of Somerset House was closed to the public for nearly a century, but on the Inland Revenue's departure in 1997 it was rejuvenated, as part of a £48-million scheme. This created an attractive piazza with a 55-jet fountain.

Films and concerts are often staged here in the summer, and for a few weeks in winter, there is an enchanting ice rink. From the courtyard, visitors can stroll through the South Building, where the highly regarded Tom's Kitchen restaurant overlooks the Thames, on to a riverside terrace that includes an open-air summer café and a restaurant, with pedestrian access to Waterloo Bridge and the South Bank.



Fountains at Somerset House

Located in Somerset House, but famous in its own right, is the spectacular **Courtauld Gallery**. Its exquisite collection of paintings has been displayed here since 1990 and owes its existence to the bequest of textile magnate and philanthropist Samuel Courtauld, one of the founders of the Art Institute. On display are works by Botticelli, Bruegel, Bellini and Rubens (including one of his early masterpieces, *The Descent from the Cross*), but it is the Courtauld's collection of Impressionist and Post-Impressionist paintings that draws the most attention. As well as works by Monet, Gauguin, Pissarro, Renoir and Modigliani, visitors can view Manet's *A Bar at the Folies-Bergères*, Van Gogh's *Self-Portrait with Bandaged Ear*, Cézanne's *The Card Players* and some evocative studies of dancers by Degas. In addition to its permanent collection, the Courtauld Institute hosts a series of world-class temporary exhibitions that take place throughout the year.




Also worth visiting are the modern, riverside **Embankment Galleries**

occupying 750 square metres of exhibition space on the two lower floors of the south wing. The changing exhibition programme covers a broad range of contemporary arts, including photography, design, fashion and architecture.

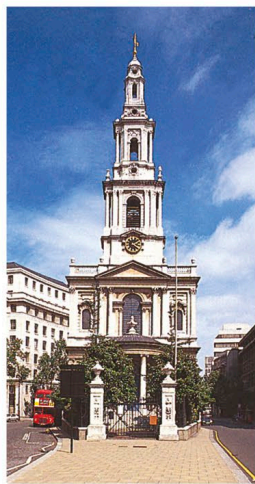


Van Gogh's *Self-Portrait with Bandaged Ear* (1889) at the Courtauld

15 St Mary-le-Strand



Strand WC2. **Map** 14 D2. **Tel** 020 7836 3126.  Temple. **Open** 10am–4pm Tue–Thu, 10am–1pm Sun.  12:30pm Mon, Tue & Thu, 11am Sun.  stmarylestrand.org

Now beached on a road island at the east end of the Strand, this pleasing church was consecrated in 1724. It was the first public building by James Gibbs, who designed St-Martin-in-the-Fields (see p106). Gibbs was influenced by Christopher Wren, but the exuberant external decorative detail here was inspired by the Baroque churches of Rome, where Gibbs studied. Its multi-arched tower is layered like a wedding cake, and culminates in a cupola and lantern. St-Mary-le-Strand is now the official church of the Women's Royal Naval Service.

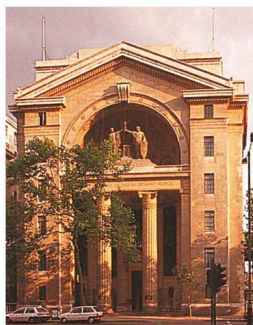


St Mary-le-Strand

16 Roman Bath

5 Strand Lane WC2. **Map** 14 D2. **Tel** 020 7641 5264.  Temple, Embankment, Charing Cross. **Open** by appt only (1 week's notice required).  via Temple Pl.


This small bath may be seen from a full-length window on Surrey Street, by pressing a light switch on the outside wall. It is almost certainly not Roman, for there is no other evidence of Roman habitation



The north entrance of Bush House

in the immediate area. It is more likely to have been part of Arundel House, one of several palaces which stood on the Strand from Tudor times until the 17th century, when they were demolished for new building. In the 19th century the bath was open to the public for cold plunges, believed to be healthy.

17 Bush House

Aldwych WC2. **Map** 14 D2.  Temple, Holborn. **Closed** to the public.

Situated at the centre of the Aldwych crescent, this Neo-Classical building was first designed as manufacturers' showrooms by an American, Irving T Bush, and completed in 1935. It appears especially imposing when viewed from Kingsway, its dramatic north entrance graced with various statues symbolizing Anglo-American relations. From 1940 it was used as radio studios, and it served as the headquarters of the BBC World Service until 2012. To many Londoners it still symbolizes the BBC.

18 Cleopatra's Needle




Embankment WC2. **Map** 13 C3.  Embankment, Charing Cross.

Erected in Heliopolis in about 1500 BC, this incongruous pink granite monument is much older than London itself. Its inscriptions celebrate the deeds of the pharaohs of ancient Egypt. It was presented

to Britain by the then Viceroy of Egypt, Mohammed Ali, in 1819 and erected in 1878, shortly after the Embankment was built. It has a twin in New York's Central Park, behind the Metropolitan Museum of Art. The bronze sphinxes, added in 1882, are not Egyptian.

In its base is a Victorian time capsule of artifacts of the day, such as the day's newspapers, a rail timetable and photographs of 12 contemporary beauties.

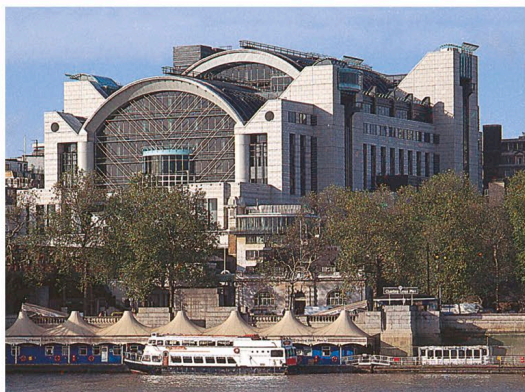
19 Victoria Embankment Gardens

WC2. **Map** 13 C3.  Embankment, Charing Cross. **Open** 7:30am–dusk Mon–Sat, 9am–dusk Sun & public hols.  

This narrow sliver of a public park, created when the Embankment was built, boasts well-maintained flowerbeds, a clutch of statues of British worthies (including the Scottish poet Robert Burns) and, in summer, a season of concerts. Its main historical feature is the water gate at its northwest corner, which was built as a triumphal entry to the Thames for the Duke of Buckingham in 1626. It is a relic of York House, which used to stand on this site and was the home first of the Archbishops of York and then of the Duke. It is still in its original position and although the water used to lap against it, because of the Thames Embankment the gate is now a good 100 m (330 ft) from the river's edge.



Victoria Embankment Gardens



Dominating its neighbours, the office block above Charing Cross station

20 Adelphi

Strand WC2. **Map** 13 C3.

📍 Embankment, Charing Cross.

Closed to the public.

Adelphi is a pun on *adelphoi*, the Greek word for brothers – this area was once an elegant riverside residential development designed in 1772 by brothers Robert and John Adam. The name now refers to the Art Deco office block, its entrance adorned with N A Trent's heroic reliefs of workers at toil, which in 1938 replaced the Adams' much admired Palladian-style apartment complex. That destruction is now viewed as one of the worst acts of 20th-century official vandalism. A number of the Adams' surrounding buildings survive, notably No. 8, the ornate Royal Society for the encouragement of Arts, Manufactures & Commerce just opposite, which hosts many



The façade of No. 7 Adam Street

talks and events for its fellows and members of the public (see www.thersa.org). In the same exuberant idiom are Nos. 1–4 Robert Street, where Robert Adam lived for a time, and No. 7 Adam Street.

21 Charing Cross

Strand WC2. **Map** 13 C3. 📍 Charing Cross, Embankment.

The name derives from the last of 12 crosses erected by Edward I to mark the funeral route in 1290 of his wife, Eleanor of Castile, to Westminster Abbey. Today a 19th-century replica stands in the forecourt of Charing Cross station. Both the cross and the Charing Cross Hotel, built into the station frontage, were designed in 1863 by E M Barry, architect of the Royal Opera House (see p119).

Above the station platforms rises an assertive office block, completed in 1991. Designed by Terry Farrell, it resembles a giant ocean liner, with portholes looking on to Villiers Street, and is best seen from the river. The railway arches at the rear of the station have been modernized as a suite of small shops. From the station you

can walk directly through to one of the Jubilee pedestrian bridges that run alongside the Hungerford rail bridge, crossing to the South Bank.

22 London Coliseum

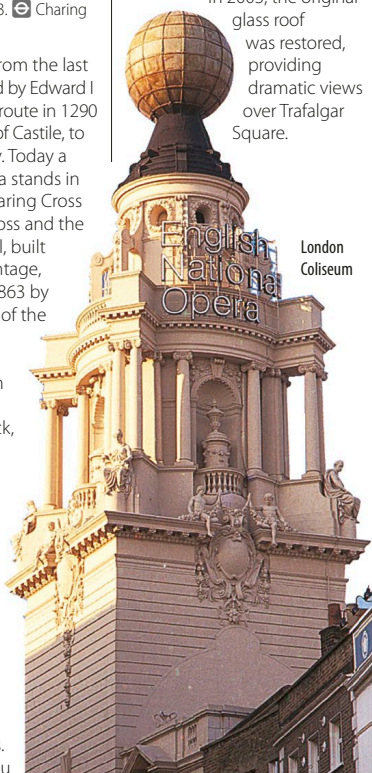
St Martin's Lane WC2. **Map** 13 B3.

Tel 020 7845 9300. 📍 Leicester Sq, Charing Cross. **Open** performances only. 📺 See *Entertainment* p344.

🌐 eno.org

London's largest theatre and one of its most elaborate, this flamboyant building, topped with a large globe, was designed in 1904 by Frank Matcham and was equipped with London's first revolving stage. It was also the first theatre in Europe to have lifts. A former variety house, today it is the home of the English National Opera, and well worth visiting, if only for the Edwardian interior with its gilded cherubs and heavy purple curtains.

In 2003, the original glass roof was restored, providing dramatic views over Trafalgar Square.





BLOOMSBURY AND FITZROVIA

Since the beginning of the 20th century, Bloomsbury and Fitzrovia have been synonymous with literature, art and learning. The Bloomsbury Group of writers and artists were active from the early 1900s until the 1930s and the name Fitzrovia was invented by writers such as Dylan Thomas who drank

in the Fitzroy Tavern. Bloomsbury still boasts the University of London, the British Museum and many fine Georgian squares. North of Bloomsbury, the former industrial hinterland of King's Cross is being transformed into one of the most exciting new districts in London.

Sights at a Glance

Historic Streets and Buildings

- 2 Bloomsbury Square
- 4 Russell Square
- 7 British Library
- 8 St Pancras International
- 9 Granary Square
- 14 Fitzroy Square
- 15 Charlotte Street

Museums

- 1 British Museum pp128–31
- 5 Charles Dickens Museum
- 6 Foundling Museum
- 12 Wellcome Collection
- 13 Grant Museum of Zoology
- 16 Pollock's Toy Museum

Churches

- 3 St George's, Bloomsbury
- 10 St Pancras Old Church and Garden
- 11 St Pancras Parish Church

Restaurants *see pp301–2*

- 1 Malabar Junction
- 2 Pied à Terre
- 3 Ragam
- 4 Roka
- 5 Salt Yard
- 6 Thai Metro



Street Finder maps 4, 5, 6, 13



Street-by-Street: Bloomsbury

This so-called “brainy quarter” is dominated by the grand British Museum and, to its north, the main campus of University College London. The area is full of Georgian buildings (formerly the homes of some of London’s prolific writers and greatest minds) and pretty squares, as well as a good handful of bookshops to browse.



The Senate House (1932) is the administrative headquarters of the University of London. It holds a priceless library.



Bedford Square is one of London’s best-preserved Georgian squares.



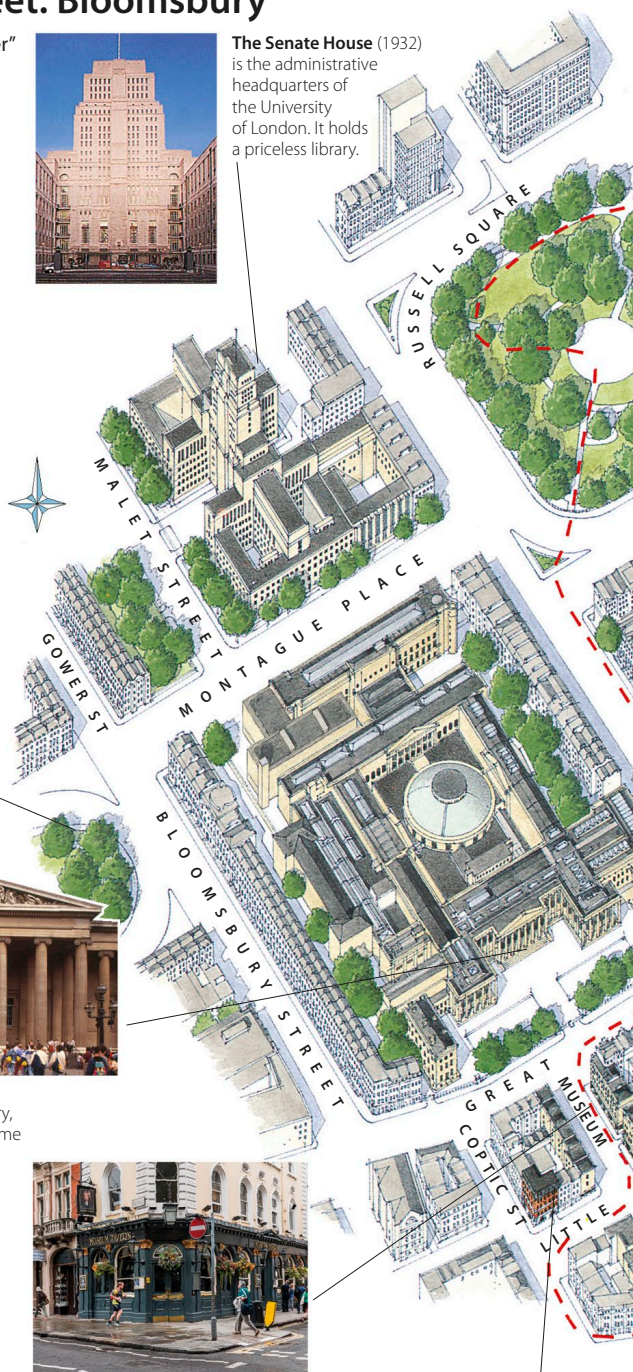
1 ★ British Museum

Designed in the mid-19th century, this popular museum attracts some five million visitors a year.

Key

— Suggested route

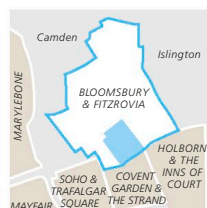
0 metres 100
0 yards 100



Museum Street is lined with small cafés and shops selling old books, prints and antiques.

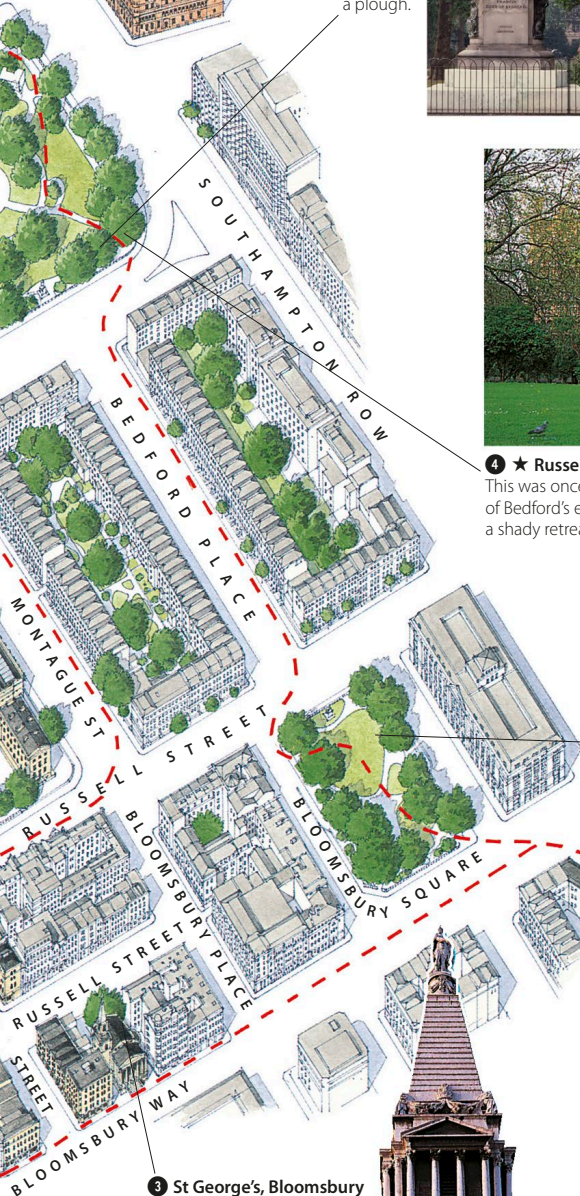
Pizza Express occupies a charming and little-altered Victorian dairy.

The Duke of Bedford's statue commemorates the fifth duke, Francis Russell (1765–1805). An avid farmer, he is shown with sheep and a plough.



Locator Map

See Central London Map pp16–17



4 ★ Russell Square

This was once part of the Duke of Bedford's estate, and is now a shady retreat on a hot day.



2 Bloomsbury Square

Laid out in 1661, it is graced by a statue of statesman Charles James Fox (1749–1806).

→ To Holborn station

3 St George's, Bloomsbury

The tower on this typically flamboyant Hawksmoor church is modelled on the tomb of King Mausolus.



Sicilian Avenue is a small and unexpected pedestrian precinct dating from 1905, with colonnades that evoke Roman architecture.

British Museum

The oldest public museum in the world, the British Museum was established in 1753 to house the collections of the physician Sir Hans Sloane (1660–1753), who also helped create the Chelsea Physic Garden (see p201). Sloane's artifacts have been added to by gifts and purchases from all over the world, and the museum now contains innumerable items stretching from the present day to prehistory. Robert Smirke designed the main part of the building (1823–50), but the architectural highlight is Sir Norman Foster's Great Court, with the world-famous Reading Room at its centre.



The innovatively designed Great Court



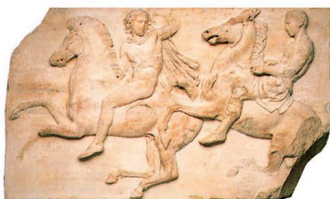
★ Egyptian Mummies

The ancient Egyptians preserved their dead in expectation of an afterlife. Animals that were believed to have sacred powers were also often mummified. This cat comes from Abydos on the Nile and dates from about 30 BC.

Numerous large-scale sculptures are featured in the Great Court.

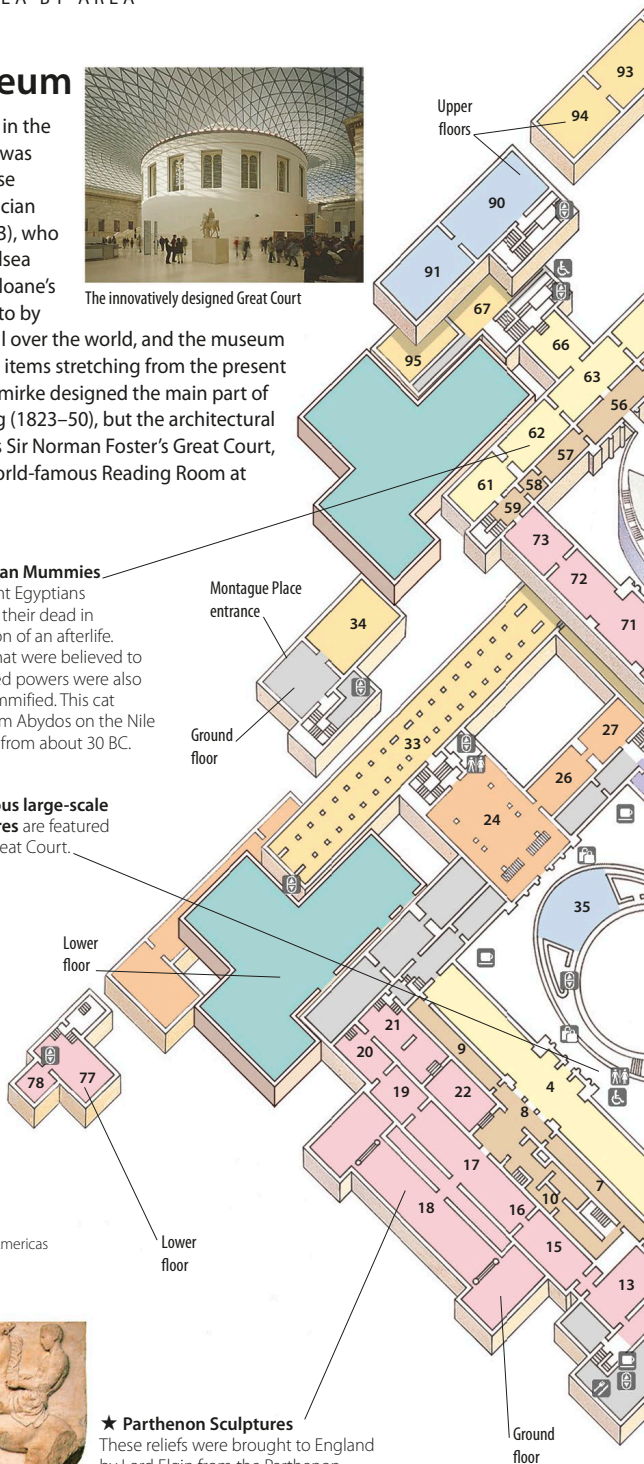
Key to Floorplan

- Asia
- Enlightenment
- Coins and medals
- Greece and Rome
- Egypt
- Middle East
- Europe
- Temporary exhibitions
- Non-gallery space
- Africa, Oceania and the Americas
- World Conservation and Exhibitions Centre



★ Parthenon Sculptures

These reliefs were brought to England by Lord Elgin from the Parthenon in Athens. The British government purchased them from him in 1816.



★ **Lindow Man**

The skin on this 2,000-year-old human body was preserved by the acids of a peat bog in Cheshire. He was probably killed in an elaborate ritual.

**Two grand staircases**

wrap around the Reading Room and link to the upper floors via a bridge.

Upper floor

★ **Sutton Hoo Treasure**

Remarkably preserved, the 7th-century ship burial includes this striking helmet.

**VISITORS' CHECKLIST****Practical Information**

Great Russell St WC1.

Map 5 B5.

Tel 020 7323 8000.

W britishmuseum.org

Open 10am–5:30pm daily (until 8:30pm Fri).

Closed 1 Jan, 24–26 Dec.



Lectures, film presentations, exhibitions, events.

Transport

🚶 Tottenham Court Rd, Holborn, Russell Sq. 🚶 7, 8, 10, 14, 19, 24,

25, 29, 30, 38, 55, 68, 73, 134, 188.

🚶 Euston, King's Cross.

**Portland Vase**

The vase was made in Italy or Egypt shortly before the birth of Christ. In 1845, a visitor smashed it into 200 pieces; it has been reassembled since.

Gallery Guide

The Greece and Rome and Middle East collections are found on all three levels of the museum. The Africa collection is on the lower floor, while Asia exhibits are found on the main and upper floors on the north side. The Americas collection is located in the northeast corner of the main floor. Egyptian artifacts are found west of the Great Court and on upper floors. The Sainsbury Gallery, part of the World Conservation and Exhibitions Centre, hosts major temporary exhibitions.

Exploring the British Museum's Collections

The museum's immense hoard of treasure spans two million years of history and culture. Its 94 galleries, which stretch 2.5 miles (4 km), cover civilizations from ancient Egypt and Assyria to modern Japan.



1st-century BC bronze helmet dredged up from the Thames

Prehistoric and Roman Britain

Relics of prehistoric Britain are on display in six separate galleries. The most impressive items include the gold "Mold Cape", a ceremonial Bronze Age cape found in Wales; an antlered headdress worn by hunter-gatherers some 9,000 years ago; and "Lindow Man", a 1st-century AD sacrificial victim who lay preserved in a bog until 1984. Some superb Celtic metalwork is also on show, alongside the silver Mildenhall Treasure and other Roman pieces. The Hinton St Mary mosaic (4th century AD) features a roundel containing the earliest known British depiction of Christ.

Europe

The spectacular Sutton Hoo ship treasure, the burial hoard of a 7th-century Anglo-Saxon king, is on display in Room 41. This superb find, made in 1939, revolutionized our understanding of Anglo-Saxon life and ritual. The artifacts include a helmet and shield, Celtic hanging bowls, the remains of a lyre, and gold and garnet jewellery.

Adjacent galleries contain a collection of clocks, watches and scientific instruments. Some exquisite timepieces are on view, including a 400-year-old clock from Prague, designed as a model galleon; in its day

it pitched, played music, and even fired a cannon. Also nearby are the famous 12th-century Lewis chessmen. Baron Ferdinand Rothschild's (1839–98) remarkably varied treasures, largely from the Renaissance and known as the Waddesdon Bequest, are beautifully displayed in Room 2a.



Gilded brass late 16th-century ship clock from Prague

Middle East

There are numerous galleries devoted to the Middle East collections, covering 7,000 years of history. The most famous items are the 7th-century BC Assyrian reliefs from King Ashurbanipal's palace at Nineveh, but of equal interest are two large human-headed bulls from 7th-century BC Khorsabad, and the Black Obelisk of Shalmaneser III, which commemorates the Assyrian king. The upper floors contain pieces from ancient Sumeria, part of the Oxus Treasure (which lay buried for over 2,000 years), and the museum's collection of clay

cuneiform tablets. The earliest of these are inscribed with the oldest known pictographs (c.3300 BC). Also of interest is a skull discovered in Jericho in the 1950s; augmented with shells and lime plaster, the skull belonged to a hunter who lived in the area some 7,000 years ago.



Ornamental detail from a Sumerian queen's lyre

Egypt

In Room 4 are Egyptian sculptures. These include a fine red granite head of a king, thought to depict Amenophis III, and a colossal statue of King Rameses II. Also on show is the Rosetta Stone, used by Jean-François Champollion (1790–1832) as a key for deciphering Egyptian hieroglyphs. An extraordinary array of mummies, jewellery and Coptic art can also be found upstairs. The various instruments that were used by embalmers to preserve bodies before entombment are all displayed. Room 61 houses paintings from the lost tomb-chapel of Nebamun.



Part of a colossal statue of Rameses II, the 13th-century BC Egyptian pharaoh

Greece and Rome

The Greek and Roman collections include the museum's most famous treasure, the controversial Parthenon sculptures. These 5th-century BC reliefs were once part of a marble frieze that decorated the Parthenon, the temple to Athena on the Acropolis in Athens. Much of it was ruined in battle in 1687, and most of what survived was removed between 1801 and 1804 by the British diplomat Lord Elgin, and sold to the British nation. Other highlights include the Nereid Monument and sculptures and friezes from the Mausoleum at



Ancient Greek vase illustrating the mythical hero Hercules's fight with a bull

Halicarnassus. The beautiful 1st-century BC cameo-glass Portland Vase is located in the Roman Empire section.

Asia

The Chinese collection boasts fine porcelain and ancient Shang bronzes (c.1500–1050 BC). Particularly impressive are the ceremonial ancient Chinese bronze vessels, with their enigmatic animal-head shapes.

In the Sir Percival David gallery the Chinese ceramics date from the 10th to early 20th centuries. They range from delicate tea bowls to a model pond, which is almost a thousand years old.

Adjacent to these is one of the world's finest collections of sculpture from the Indian subcontinent. A major highlight is an assortment of sculpted reliefs, which once covered the walls of the Buddhist temple at Amaravati, and which recount stories from the life of the Buddha. A Korean section contains some gigantic works of Buddhist art.

The museum's collection of Islamic art, including a jade terrapin found in a water tank,



Statue of the Hindu god Shiva as Nataraja, or Lord of the Dance (11th century AD)

can be found in Room 34. Rooms 92 to 94 house the Japanese galleries, with a traditional teahouse in Room 92.

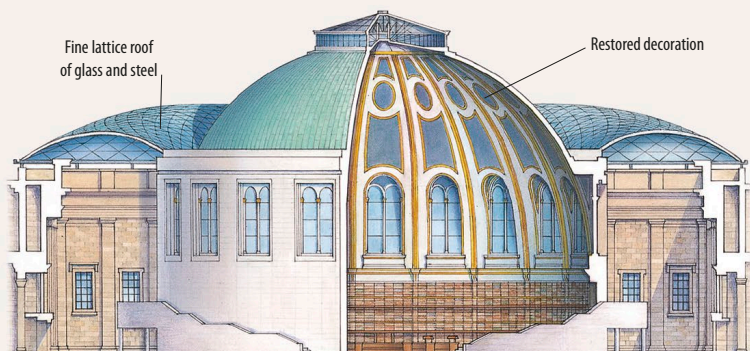
Africa

An interesting collection of African sculptures, textiles and graphic art can also be found in Room 25 on the lower floor of the museum. Famous bronzes from the Kingdom of Benin stand alongside modern African prints, paintings, drawings and colourful fabrics.

The Great Court and Reading Room

Surrounding the Reading Room of the former British Library, the £100-million Great Court opened to coincide with the new millennium. Designed by Sir Norman Foster, the court is covered by a tessellated glass roof, creating London's first indoor public square. The Reading Room is arguably one of the best-known libraries in the world, not least for the list of famous names who have studied here, including Karl Marx, Mahatma Gandhi and George

Bernard Shaw. The interior was restored to its original design, and has been used for a variety of temporary exhibitions. However, further remedial work has necessitated closing it again; it may be worth checking in advance that it has reopened. From the outside, though, it remains an impressive sight, housed in a multi-level construction which partly supports the roof, and which also contains bookshops, cafés and restaurants.



2 Bloomsbury Square

WC1. Map 5 C5. Holborn.

This is the oldest of the Bloomsbury squares. It was laid out in 1661 by the 4th Earl of Southampton, who owned the land. None of the original buildings survive and the square's shaded garden is encircled by a busy one-way traffic system. (There is a car park below the square that, unusually for central London, nearly always has a free space or two.)

The literary and artistic avant-garde Bloomsbury Group lived in the area during the early years of the last century. They included prominent figures such as novelists Virginia Woolf and E M Forster, biographer Lytton Strachey and artists Vanessa Bell, Duncan Grant and Dora Carrington. Look out for their individual plaques throughout the area (see p43).



The simple, tranquil interior of St George's church in Bloomsbury

3 St George's, Bloomsbury

Bloomsbury Way WC1. Map 13 B1.
Tel 020 7242 1979. Holborn, Tottenham Court Rd, Russell Sq. **Open** 1–3pm Mon–Thu, 1–3:30pm Fri, noon–1pm Sun. 9am Tue–Fri, 1:10pm Wed & Fri, 10:30am Sun. Recitals. by appointment.
www.stgeorgesbloomsbury.org.uk

A slightly eccentric church, St George's was designed by Nicholas Hawksmoor, Wren's pupil, and completed in 1730. It was built as a place of worship for the prosperous residents of newly developed, fashionable



The flamboyant Russell Hotel on Russell Square

Bloomsbury. The layered tower, modelled on the tomb of King Mausolus (the original mausoleum in Turkey) and topped by a statue of George I, was for a long time an object of derision – the king was thought to be presented too heroically. In 1913, the funeral of Emily Davison, the suffragette who threw herself under King George V's horse, was held here.

In the crypt is the Museum of Comedy, which doubles up as a stand-up comedy venue.

4 Russell Square

WC1. Map 5 B5. Russell Sq. **Open** 7:30am–10pm daily.

One of London's largest squares, Russell Square is a lively place, with a fountain, café and traffic roaring around its perimeter. The east side boasts perhaps the best of the Victorian grand hotels to survive in the capital. Charles Doll's Russell Hotel, which was opened in 1900, is a wondrous confection of red terracotta, with colonnaded balconies and prancing cherubs beneath the main columns. The exuberance is continued in the lobby, faced with marble of many colours.

The poet T S Eliot worked at the west corner of the square, from 1925 until 1965, in what were the offices of publishers Faber and Faber.

5 Charles Dickens Museum

48 Doughty St WC1. Map 6 D4.

Tel 020 7405 2127. Chancery Lane, Russell Sq. **Open** 10am–5pm daily (last adm 4pm).

Closed 1 Jan, 25 & 26 Dec, and occasionally Sat for events (phone to check). ground floor only.

dickensmuseum.com

The novelist Charles Dickens lived in this early 19th-century terraced house for three of his most productive years (from 1837 to 1839). *Oliver Twist* and *Nicholas Nickleby* were entirely written here, and *Pickwick Papers* was finished. Although Dickens had a number of London homes throughout his lifetime, this is the only one to have survived.

In 1923, it was acquired by the Dickens Fellowship and it is now a well-conceived museum with some of the principal rooms laid out exactly as they were in Dickens' time. Others have been adapted to display a varied collection of articles associated with him.

The museum houses over 100,000 exhibits, including manuscripts, paintings and personal items; papers and pieces of furniture from his other homes; and first editions of many of his best-known works.

6 Foundling Museum

40 Brunswick Square WC1. **Map** 5 C4.
Tel 020 7841 3600. Russell Square. **Open** 10am–5pm Tue–Sat, 11am–5pm Sun. **Closed** 1 Jan, 24–26 & 31 Dec. Coram's Fields: Guilford St WC1. **Open** 9am–dusk. foundlingmuseum.org.uk

In 1722, Captain Thomas Coram, a retired sailor and shipbuilder recently returned from the Americas and horrified by the poverty on London's streets, vowed to establish a refuge for abandoned children, where they could be cared for, educated and placed in private homes. Assisted by his friend, the artist William Hogarth, and the composer George Frideric Handel, Coram worked tirelessly to raise funds for the refuge. Finally in 1739, after much petitioning of George II, he was granted a Royal Charter to establish a Foundling Hospital. Hogarth donated paintings to the hospital and other artists followed suit, creating Britain's first art gallery. The wealthy were encouraged to view the works of art and the children, in the hope that they would donate funds.

The first site of the hospital was at Hatton Garden, though it moved to near this site in 1745. The original buildings were demolished in the 1920s, with just the entrance arcades remaining, though the interiors of two of the 18th-century rooms were saved and installed in the new building.

On the ground floor, the story of the many children cared for in the Foundling Hospital is told. The nationally important collection of 18th-century paintings, sculpture, furniture and interiors is displayed on the first floor, and a room dedicated to Handel is on the top floor. The museum also has excellent temporary exhibitions and concerts.

Next to the museum, with its entrance on Guilford Street, is Coram's Fields, a unique park for children and young people (aged under 16). All adults, however, must be accompanied by children. It includes a youth centre, a city farm and a café.



Portrait of Captain Coram (1740) by William Hogarth

7 British Library

96 Euston Rd NW1. **Map** 5 B3.
Tel 01937 546 060. King's Cross St Pancras. Building and Treasures Gallery **Open** 9:30am–6pm Mon, Fri & Sat, 9:30am–8pm Tue–Thu, 11:30am–5pm Sun. Temporary exhibition galleries **Open** 9:30am–6pm Mon–Fri (to 8pm Tue), 9:30am–5pm Sat, 11am–5pm Sun. Regular events. for some special exhibitions. twice daily; advance booking recommended. bl.uk

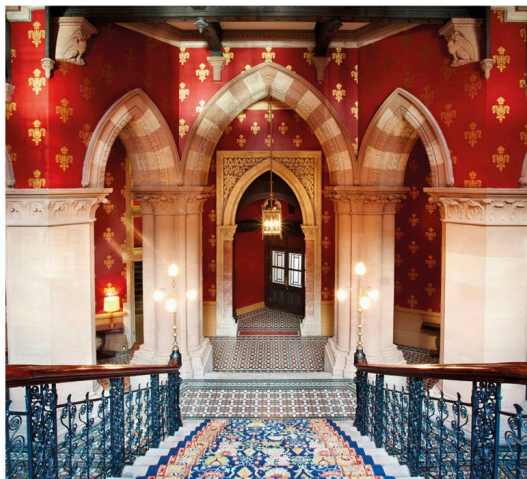
This late 20th-century building houses the national collection of books, manuscripts and maps, as well as the British Library Sound Archive. Designed in red brick by Sir Colin St John Wilson, it opened in 1997 after nearly 20 years of construction and despite controversial cost overruns it is now widely admired.

A copy of nearly every printed book in the UK is held here – more than 14 million – and can be consulted by those with a reader's ticket. There are also exhibition galleries open to all. In the Treasures Gallery, visitors may view some of the library's most precious items, including the Lindisfarne Gospels. Other rare volumes include a Gutenberg Bible and Shakespeare's First Folio.

8 St Pancras International

Euston Rd NW1. **Map** 5 B2.
Tel 020 7843 7688. King's Cross St Pancras. See *Getting to London* p368.
stpncras.com

St Pancras, the London terminal for Eurostar rail services to continental Europe, is easily the most spectacular of the three rail termini along Euston Road, thanks to the extravagant frontage, in red-brick ginger-bread Gothic, of the former Midland Grand Hotel, opened in 1874 as one of the most sumptuous hotels of its time. By 1935, now too expensive to run, it became office space. It was threatened with demolition in the 1960s but saved by a campaign led by the poet John Betjeman (there is a statue of him on the upper level of the station concourse). The hotel has since been restored.



Central staircase of St Pancras Renaissance Hotel above St Pancras Station



St Martin's College of Art in its new home on Granary Square

9 Granary Square

N1C. **Map** 5 B1 King's Cross St Pancras. Visitor centre: 11 Stable St. **Tel** 020 3479 1795. **Open** 10am–5pm Mon–Fri, 10am–4pm Sat from the visitor centre; book online. kingscross.co.uk

The formerly drab area north of King's Cross station has been radically transformed into a cultural and social hub, with several major building projects still ongoing. The focus of the area is attractive Granary Square, which leads down to Regent's Canal. The square is dominated by magnificent fountains that dance to an ever-changing pattern of lights, a magnet for small children on hot days.

Adding to the appeal of this increasingly popular area are green spaces, such as Lewis Cubitt Park, just to the north of the square; exciting installations (including an outdoor swimming pond); a regular food market; and a number of good restaurants.

10 St Pancras Old Church and Graveyard

Pancras Rd NW1. **Map** 5 A2. **Tel** 020 7424 0724. King's Cross St Pancras. **Open** 9am–dusk daily (church until around 3pm; check in advance). 9:30am Mon, 7pm Tue, 9:30am Sun. Recitals 1:15pm Thu. sosstpancras.org

This site is thought to have been a place of Christian

worship since the 4th century – there are fragments of Roman tiles embedded in one of the walls and some Norman masonry – though much of the church building dates from a substantial renovation in 1847.

St Pancras Old Church's graveyard, now a pleasant green space with a few monuments dotted around, was until the 1850s one of the largest burial sites in London. With the arrival of the railways, half the site was built over, and gravestones were moved – hence the remarkable sight of closely packed gravestones embedded into the base of a tree. This is the Hardy Tree, named after author Thomas Hardy, who worked as an architectural technician on the site. Sir John Soane (*see pp140–41*) designed his own family mausoleum, which is said to have inspired Sir Giles Gilbert Scott's design of London's famous and once-ubiquitous red telephone box.



Caryatids in classical Greek style support the portico of St Pancras Church

11 St Pancras Parish Church

Euston Rd NW1. **Map** 5 B3. **Tel** 020 7388 1461. Euston. **Open** 8am–6pm Mon–Thu (check ahead). 8am, 10am & 6pm Sun. Recitals 1:15pm Thu. stpancraschurch.org

This is a stately Greek Revival church of 1822 designed by William Inwood and his son Henry, both great fans of Athenian architecture. The design is based on the Erechtheion at the Acropolis in Athens, and even the wooden pulpit stands on miniature Ionic columns of its own. The long galleried interior has a dramatic severity appropriate to the church's style. The female figures on the northern outer wall were originally taller than they are now: a chunk had to be taken out of the middle of each to make them fit under the roof they were meant to support.

The church hosts a festival of contemporary church music in May, and art exhibitions are sometimes mounted in the atmospheric crypt.

12 Wellcome Collection

183 Euston Rd NW1. **Map** 5 A4. **Tel** 020 7611 2222. Euston, King's Cross, Warren St. **Open** 10am–6pm Tue–Sat (to 10pm Thu & first Fri of month), 11am–6pm Sun, noon–6pm public hols. **Closed** 1 Jan, 24–26 Dec. wellcomecollection.org

Sir Henry Wellcome (1853–1963) was a pharmacist, entrepreneur and collector. His passionate interest in medicine and its history, as well as ethnography and archaeology, led him to gather more than one million objects from around the world. The Wellcome Collection is a £30-million public venue used to house his vast collection.

The museum's permanent exhibitions – Medicine Man and Medicine Now – include more than 900 objects, from Napoleon's toothbrush to Florence Nightingale's moccasins. Changing exhibitions cover a

range of engaging topics exploring medicine, art and the human condition. You can also explore the reimagined Reading Room, which is a hybrid space bridging library, exhibition and event space – relax in the café or enjoy an afternoon tea in the restaurant.

The Wellcome Library, on the upper floors, is the world's largest collection of books devoted to the history of medicine.



No. 29 Fitzroy Square, formerly the home of literary giants

13 The Grant Museum of Zoology

21 University St WC1. **Map** 5 A4. **Tel** 020 3108 2052.  Warren St, Goodge St, Russell Square **Open** 1–5pm Mon–Sat.  ucl.ac.uk/museums

The heart of Bloomsbury's university district can be found in Gower Street: on one side of the road is the Neo-Classical main building of University College London, designed by William Wilkins in 1827, and opposite is the original terracotta building of University College Hospital (now used by the university). UCL owns several museum collections, including the Grant Museum of Zoology, which was established in 1828. It houses around 68,000 specimens – animal skeletons, taxidermy, mounted insects and creatures preserved in jars (including a jar of 18 preserved moles) – in crowded wooden cases, making it an atmospheric, occasionally gruesome, insight into the world of 19th-century science and collecting. Other university museums include a large Egyptian collection in the Petrie Museum and an art gallery.

14 Fitzroy Square

W1. **Map** 4 F4.  Warren St, Great Portland St.




Designed by Robert Adam in 1794, the square's south and east sides survive in their original form, in dignified Portland stone. Blue plaques record the homes of many artists, writers and statesmen: George Bernard Shaw and Virginia Woolf both lived at No. 29 – although not at the same time. Shaw gave money to the artist Roger Fry to establish the Omega workshop at No. 33 in 1913. Here young artists were paid a fixed wage to produce Post-Impressionist furniture, pottery, carpets and paintings for sale to the public.



Telecom Tower

Oxford Street and the furniture stores on Tottenham Court Road. Others set up reasonably priced restaurants. The street still boasts a great variety of eating places. It is overshadowed from the north by the 189-m (620-ft) Telecom Tower, built in 1964 as a vast TV, radio and telecommunications aerial (see p34).

16 Pollock's Toy Museum

1 Scala St W1 (entrance on Whitfield St). **Map** 5 A5. **Tel** 020 7636 3452.  Goodge St, Warren St, Tottenham Court Rd. **Open** 10am–5pm Mon–Sat. **Closed** public hols.   pollockstoys.com

Benjamin Pollock was a renowned maker of toy theatres in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, and counted the novelist Robert Louis Stevenson as an enthusiastic customer. The museum opened in Monmouth Street in Covent Garden in 1956 and relocated here in 1969. This is a child-sized museum created in two 18th- and 19th-century houses. The small rooms have been filled with a fascinating assortment of historic toys from all over the world. There are dolls, puppets, trains, cars, construction sets, a fine rocking horse and a splendid collection of mainly Victorian doll's houses. Parents beware – the exit leads you through a toyshop.

15 Charlotte Street

W1. **Map** 5 A5.  Goodge St.

As the upper classes moved west from Bloomsbury in the early 19th century, a flood of artists and European immigrants moved in, turning the area into a northern extension to Soho (see pp102–13). The artist John Constable lived and worked for many years at No. 76. The Fitzroy Tavern at No.16 was a popular drinking den for writers and artists, including Dylan Thomas, between the wars.

Some of the area's residents established small workshops to service the clothing shops on



The attractive front of Pollock's Toy Museum



HOLBORN AND THE INNS OF COURT

This area was traditionally home to the legal and journalistic professions, but while the law is still practised here, in the Royal Courts of Justice and the Inns of Court, the national newspapers left Fleet Street in the 1980s. Several buildings here predate the Great Fire of 1666 (*see pp26–7*).

These include the Old Curiosity Shop, the superb façade of Staple Inn and the interior of Middle Temple Hall. Two quirky collections stand on either side of Lincoln's Inn Fields: the Hunterian Museum of surgery and Sir John Soane's Museum, a treasure trove of art, antiquities and architectural models.

Sights at a Glance

Historic Buildings, Sights and Streets

- ② Lincoln's Inn
- ⑤ Old Curiosity Shop
- ⑦ Royal Courts of Justice
- ⑧ Law Society
- ⑩ Fleet Street
- ⑪ Temple
- ⑭ Dr Johnson's House
- ⑯ Holborn Viaduct
- ⑰ Hatton Garden
- ⑱ Staple Inn
- ⑳ Gray's Inn

Museums and Galleries

- ① Sir John Soane's Museum
- ④ Hunterian Museum

Churches

- ⑥ St Clement Danes
- ⑫ St Bride's
- ⑮ St Andrew, Holborn
- ⑰ St Etheldreda's Church

Monuments

- ⑨ Temple Bar Memorial

Parks and Gardens

- ③ Lincoln's Inn Fields

Pubs and Bars

- ⑬ Ye Olde Cheshire Cheese

Shops

- ⑫ London Silver Vaults

Restaurants *see pp301–2*

- 1 The Chancery
- 2 De Palo's
- 3 Vanilla Black
- 4 The White Swan



Street Finder maps 6, 14

0 metres 500
0 yards 500

Street-by-Street: Lincoln's Inn

This is calm, dignified, legal London, packed with history and interest. Lincoln's Inn, adjoining one of the city's first residential squares, has buildings dating back to the late 15th century. Dark-suited lawyers carry bundles of briefs between their offices here and the Neo-Gothic Law Courts. Nearby is the Temple, another historic legal district, with a famous 13th-century round church.

1 ★ Sir John Soane's Museum

The Georgian architect made this his London home and left it, with his collection, to the nation.



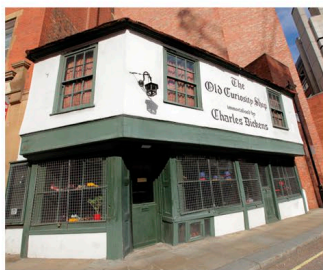
To Kingsway



3 ★ Lincoln's Inn Fields

The mock-Tudor archway, leading to Lincoln's Inn and built in 1845, overlooks the Fields.

Lincoln's Inn



5 Old Curiosity Shop

This is a rare 16th-century, pre-Great Fire building, which is now a shop.



Twinings has been selling tea here since 1706. The doorway dates from 1787 when the shop (216 Strand) was called the Golden Lion.

4 The Hunterian Museum

forms part of the Royal College of Surgeons, designed in 1836 by Sir Charles Barry.

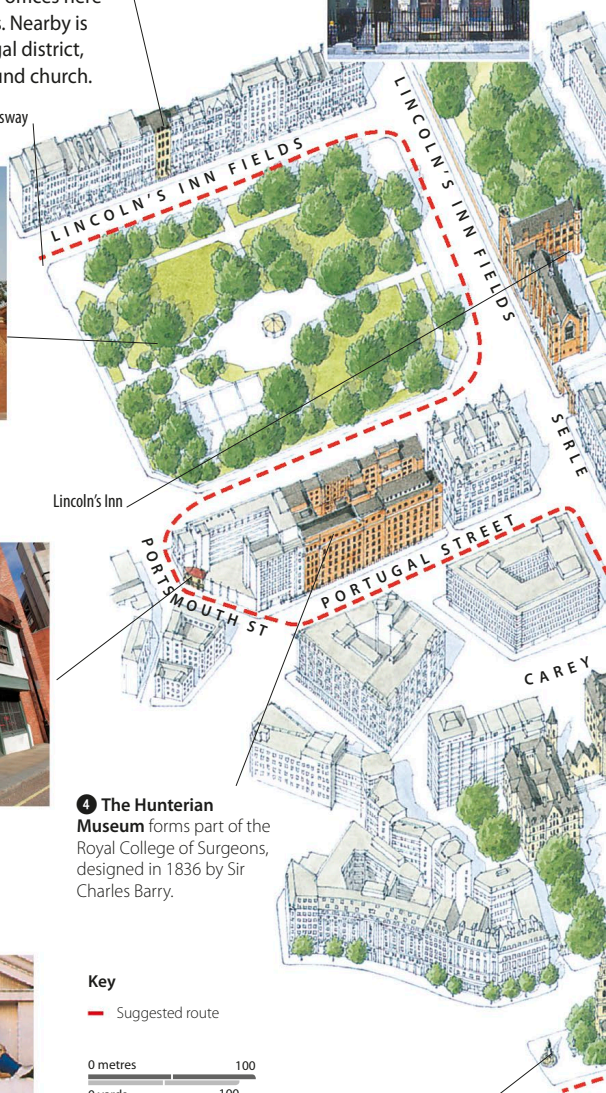
Key

— Suggested route

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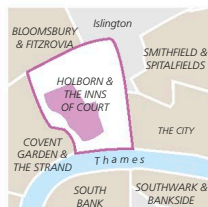
The Gladstone Statue was erected in 1905 to commemorate William Gladstone, the Victorian statesman who served four terms as prime minister.





2 ★ Lincoln's Inn

The Court of Chancery sat here, in Old Hall, from 1835 until 1858. Sir John Taylor Coleridge, nephew of the poet, was a well-known judge of the time.



Locator Map

See Central London Map pp16–17

7 Royal Courts of Justice

The country's main court for civil cases and appeals was built in 1882. It is made out of 35 million bricks faced with Portland stone.

8 Law Society

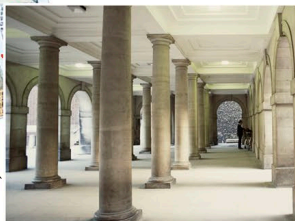
Look for the gold lions on the railings of the Law Society's headquarters.

10 Fleet Street

For two centuries this was the centre of the national press. The newspaper offices moved out in the 1980s.

El Vino is a venerable wine bar where Fleet Street's journalists once mingled with barristers.

No. 17 Fleet Street has a superb half-timbered façade (1610) that survived the Fire. James I's eldest son, Prince Henry, had a room on the first floor of this former tavern.



6 St Clement Danes

Designed by Wren (1679), this is the Royal Air Force's church.

9 Temple Bar Memorial

A dragon marks where the City of London meets Westminster.

11 ★ Temple

This area was first home to the Knights Templar, who were based here in the 13th century.



The interior of the chapel in the grounds of Lincoln's Inn

1 Sir John Soane's Museum

13 Lincoln's Inn Fields WC2.

Map 14 D1. **Tel** 020 7405 2107.

☎ Holborn. **Open** 10am–5pm

Tue–Sat, 6–9pm first Tue of month.

Closed public hols, 24 Dec. ♿ limited – phone first. 📺 tour times vary, check in advance; groups book ahead. 📱

🌐 soane.org

One of the most surprising museums in London, this house was left to the nation by Sir John Soane in 1837, with a far-sighted stipulation that nothing at all should be changed. One of Britain's leading 19th-century architects, Soane was responsible for designing Dulwich Picture Gallery (see pp256–7). The son of a bricklayer, he married the niece of a wealthy builder, whose fortune he inherited. He bought and reconstructed No. 12 Lincoln's Inn Fields, then No. 13, which he and his wife moved into in 1813, and later, in 1823–4, he rebuilt No. 14, extending his

museum into the rear of this building. Today, the collections are much as Soane left them – an eclectic gathering of beautiful, peculiar and instructional objects.

The building itself abounds with architectural surprises and illusions. In the main ground-floor room, with its deep red and green colouring, cunningly placed mirrors play tricks with light and space. The picture gallery is lined with layers of folding panels to increase its capacity. The panels open out to reveal galleried extensions to the room itself. Among other works here are many of Soane's own Neo-Classical designs, including those for Pitzhanger Manor (see p264) and the Bank of England (see p151). Here also is William Hogarth's *Rake's Progress* series.

In the centre of the basement, an atrium stretches up to the roof, the glass dome of which lights galleries, on every floor, laden with Classical statuary.

2 Lincoln's Inn

WC2. **Map** 14 D1. **Tel** 020 7405 1393.

☎ Holborn, Chancery Lane.

Open Chapel: 9am–5pm Mon–Fri.

Other buildings: check website.

♿ 📱 First Fri of month 2pm.

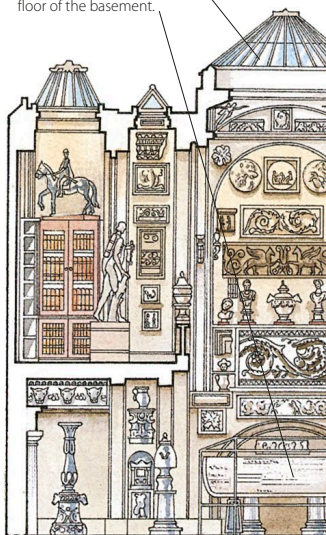
🌐 lincolnsinn.org.uk

Some of the buildings in Lincoln's Inn, the best-preserved of London's Inns of Court, go back to the late 15th century. The coat of arms above the arch of the Chancery Lane gatehouse is Henry VIII's, and the heavy oak door is of the same vintage. Shakespeare's contemporary, Ben Jonson, is believed to have laid some of the bricks of Lincoln's Inn during the reign of Elizabeth I. The chapel is early 17th-century Gothic. Women were not allowed to be buried here until 1839, when the grieving Lord Brougham petitioned to have the rule changed so that his beloved daughter could be interred in the chapel, to wait for him to join her.

Lincoln's Inn has its share of famous alumni. Oliver Cromwell and John Donne,

A glass dome allows light into the basement.

A vast sarcophagus (1300 BC) stands on the floor of the basement.



the 17th-century poet, were both students here, as was William Penn, founder of the US state of Pennsylvania.

3 Lincoln's Inn Fields

WC2. Map 14 D1.  Holborn.

Open dawn–dusk daily. Public tennis courts.

This used to be a public execution site. Under the Tudors and the Stuarts, many religious martyrs, and those suspected of treachery to the Crown, perished here.

When the developer William Newton wanted to build here in the 1640s, students at Lincoln's Inn and other residents made him undertake that the land in the centre would remain a public area forever. Thanks to this early protest, tennis is played here throughout the summer, and lawyers read their briefs in the fresh air. For some years, it has also been the site of an evening soup kitchen for some of London's homeless.




Skeletons on display in the Hunterian Museum

4 Hunterian Museum


35–43 Lincoln's Inn Fields, WC2.

Map 14 D1. Tel 020 7869 6560.

 Holborn, Chancery Lane.

Closed for refurbishment until 2020.

 1 pm Wed, book in advance 

 hunterianmuseum.org

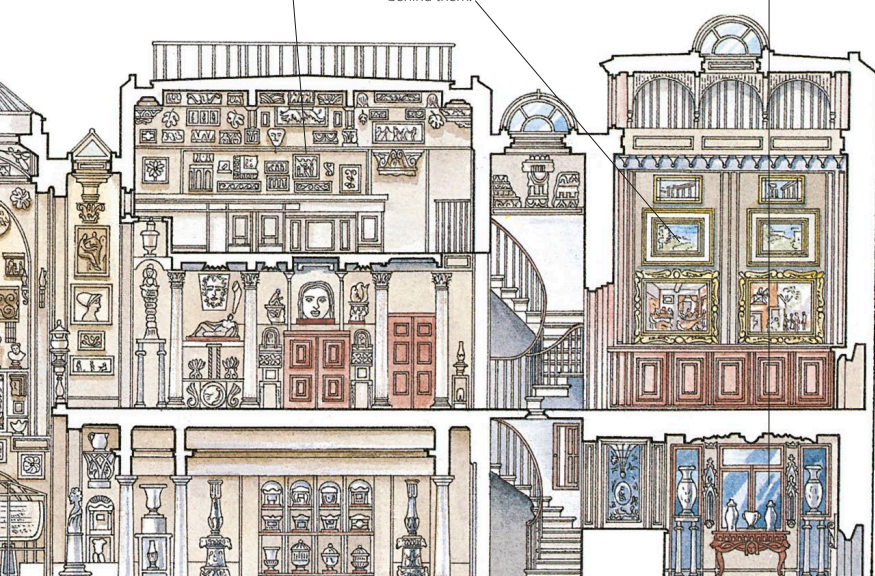
Inside the Royal College of Surgeons, the Hunterian Museum started life as the personal collection of John Hunter (1728–93), one of the leading teachers of surgery in his day, who amassed a large collection of human

and animal anatomical specimens to aid his teaching. The museum was hit by a bomb in 1941 but of the collection of 14,000 objects, over 3,000 remain, including some of the most famous, such as the skeleton of Charles Byrne, the “Irish Giant” (somewhat controversially as Byrne wished to be buried at sea). It's not a museum for the squeamish, but the surgical instruments and interactive displays on modern surgery are fascinating for those with an interest in the subject.

Every wall is covered, and every room filled, with artifacts from Soane's massive collection.

In the picture gallery, panels covered with paintings unfold to reveal more works of art behind them.

The Monk's Parlour is full of grotesque Gothic casts.



9 Old Curiosity Shop

13–14 Portsmouth St WC2.

Map 14 D1.  Holborn.

 the-old-curiosity-shop.com




Whether it inspired the Charles Dickens's 19th-century novel of the same name or not, the Old Curiosity Shop is a genuine 16th-century building. With its wooden beams and overhanging first floor, it gives a rare impression of a London streetscape from before the Great Fire of 1666. The shop maintains its retailing tradition, and currently operates as a handmade shoe shop. A preservation order guarantees the building's long-term future.



The quaint Old Curiosity Shop on Portsmouth Street

6 St Clement Danes

Strand WC2. **Map** 14 D2. **Tel** 020 7242

8282.  Temple. **Open** 9am–4pm Mon–Fri, 10am–3pm Sat, 9:30am–3pm Sun. **Closed** noon 25–27 Dec, pub hols.  12:30am Wed & Fri, 11am Sun.  See Ceremonies p59.

 raf.mod.uk/stclementdanes

Sitting proudly isolated on a traffic island, this wonderful church was designed by


Christopher Wren in 1680. Its name derives from an earlier church built here by the descendants of Danish invaders, whom Alfred the Great had allowed to remain in London in the 9th century. From the 17th to 19th centuries many people were buried here, and their memorial plaques are now in the crypt. The chain now hanging on the crypt wall was probably used to secure coffin lids against body snatchers who stole fresh corpses and sold them to the teaching hospitals. Outside, to the east, is a statue (1910) of Dr Johnson (see p144), who often came to services here.



Nearly destroyed during World War II, the church was rebuilt and became the central church of the Royal Air Force (RAF). The interior is dominated by RAF symbols, memorials and monuments.


The church bells ring to various tunes including that of the old English nursery rhyme *Oranges and Lemons*, in whose lyrics the church features.

7 Royal Courts of Justice (the Law Courts)

Strand WC2. **Map** 14 D2. **Tel** 020 7947

6000.  Holborn, Temple, Chancery Lane. **Open** 9:30am–4:30pm Mon–Fri.

Closed pub hols.   call ahead 077 8975 1248.

 justice.gov.uk/courts

Knots of demonstrators and television cameras can often be seen outside this sprawling and fanciful Victorian Gothic building, waiting for the result of a contentious case. These are the




Gothic façade of the Royal Courts of Justice

nation's main civil courts, dealing with such matters as divorce, libel, civil liability and appeals. Cases involving criminal offences are dealt with at the Old Bailey (see p151), ten minutes' walk to the east. The public are admitted to all the court rooms and a list details which case is being heard in which court. The massive Gothic building was completed in 1882. It is said to contain 1,000 rooms and 5.6 km (3.5 miles) of corridors.

8 Law Society

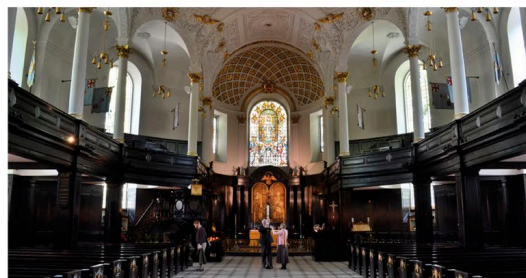
113 Chancery Lane WC2. **Map** 14 E1.

Tel 020 7242 1222.  Chancery Lane.

Closed to the public.

The headquarters of the solicitors' professional body is, architecturally, one of the most interesting buildings in the legal quarter. The main part, dominated by four Ionic columns, was completed in 1832. More significant is the northern extension, an early work of Charles Holden, an Arts and Crafts enthusiast who later made his name as a designer of London Underground stations. In his window arches the four seated figures depict truth, justice, liberty and mercy.

The building is on the corner of Carey Street, the site of the bankruptcy court whose name, corrupted to "Queer Street", entered the language to describe a state of destitution.



Interior of St Clement Danes, restored as the church of the Royal Air Force



William Capon's engraving of Fleet Street in 1799

9 Temple Bar Memorial

Fleet St EC4. **Map** 14 D2. Holborn, Temple, Chancery Lane.

The monument in the middle of Fleet Street dates from 1880 and marks the entrance to the City of London. On state occasions it is a long-standing tradition for the monarch to pause here and ask permission of the Lord Mayor to enter. Temple Bar, a huge archway designed by Wren, used to stand here. It spent over a century in the grounds of a country estate in Hertfordshire before being erected at the entrance of Paternoster Square near St Paul's Cathedral (see *p152–5*) in 2004.

10 Fleet Street

EC4. **Map** 14 E1. Temple, Blackfriars, St Paul's.

England's first printing press was set up by William Caxton in the late 15th century. Some years later, his assistant began his own business in Fleet Street, and the area became the centre of London's publishing industry. Playwrights Shakespeare and Ben Jonson were patrons of the old Mitre tavern, now No. 37 Fleet Street. In 1702, the first newspaper, *The Daily Courant*, was issued from Fleet Street – conveniently placed for the City and Westminster, which were the main sources of news. Later the street became synonymous with the Press. The grand Art Deco building with Egyptian-style detail at No. 135 is the former

headquarters of *The Daily Telegraph*. Next to the church of St-Dunstan-in-the-West (which largely dates from the 1830s) is a building adorned with the names of former newspapers.

The printing presses underneath the newspaper offices were abandoned in 1987, when new technology made it easy to produce papers away from the centre of town in areas such as Wapping and the Docklands. Today the newspapers have also left Fleet Street, even though some of the journalists' traditional watering holes remain, such as Ye Olde Cheshire Cheese public house (see *p144*), and the legendary El Vino wine bar, at the western end opposite Fetter Lane.

11 Temple

Inner Temple, King's Bench Walk EC4.

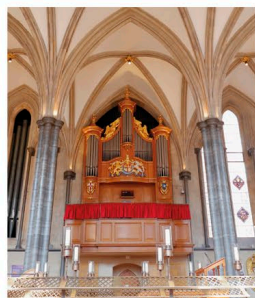
Map 14 E2. **Tel** 020 7797 8241 (for tours). Temple. **Open** 12:30–3pm Mon–Fri (grounds only). Middle Temple Hall, Middle Temple Lane EC4. **Tel** 020 7427 4800. **Open** 10am–noon Mon–Fri. **Closed** at short notice for functions. book ahead. Temple Church **Tel** 020 7353 8559.

Open Mon–Fri; call ahead to check times. 1:15pm Thu, 8:30am & 11:15am Sun. templechurch.com

This series of courtyards and buildings comprises two of the four Inns of Court: the Middle Temple and the Inner Temple. Lincoln's Inn (see *p140*) and Gray's Inn (see *p145*) complete the four. The name derives

from the Knights Templar, a chivalrous order that used to protect pilgrims to the Holy Land. The order was based here until it was suppressed by the Crown because its power was viewed as a threat. Initiations probably took place in the crypt of Temple Church and there are 13th-century effigies of Knights Templar in the nave.

Among some other ancient buildings is the Middle Temple Hall. Its fine Elizabethan interior survives. Behind Temple, peaceful lawns stretch lazily down towards the Embankment.



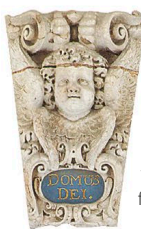
The impressive organ in the historic Temple Church

12 St Bride's

Fleet St EC4. **Map** 14 F2. **Tel** 020 7427 0133. Blackfriars. **Open** 8am–6pm Mon–Fri, 10am–6:30pm Sun (hours vary Sat). **Closed** pub hols. 3pm Tue. 11am & 5:30pm Sun. stbrides.com

St Bride's is one of Wren's best-loved churches. Its position just off Fleet Street has made it the traditional venue for memorial services to departed journalists. Wall plaques commemorate notable pressmen and women and printers. The marvellous

octagonal layered spire has been the model for tiered wedding cakes since shortly after it was added in 1703. Bombed in 1940, the interior was faithfully restored after World War II. The fascinating crypt contains remnants of earlier churches on the site, and a section of Roman pavement.



Stonework at St Bride's, traditionally the "journalists' church"



Inside the historic Ye Olde Cheshire Cheese pub

13 Ye Olde Cheshire Cheese

145 Fleet St EC4. **Map** 14 E1.
Tel 020 7353 6170. Blackfriars.
Open 11am–11pm Mon–Fri,
 noon–11pm Sat, noon–7pm Sun.
See Pubs and Bars pp12–15.

There has been an inn here for centuries and parts of this building date back to 1667, when the Cheshire Cheese was rebuilt after the Great Fire of 1666. The diarist Samuel Pepys often drank here in the 17th century, but it was Dr Samuel Johnson's (*see below*) association with "the Cheese" that made it a place of pilgrimage for the 19th-century literati. Novelists Mark Twain and Charles Dickens were frequent visitors. This is one of few pubs to have kept the 18th-century arrangement of small rooms with fireplaces, tables and benches, instead of knocking rooms into larger bars.

14 Dr Johnson's House

17 Gough Sq EC4. **Map** 14 E1.
Tel 020 7353 3745. Blackfriars,
 Chancery Lane, Temple. **Open** May–
 Sep: 11am–5:30pm Mon–Sat; Oct–
 Apr: 11am–5pm Mon–Sat.
Closed pub hols.
w drjohnsonshouse.org

The oft-quoted Dr Samuel Johnson was an 18th-century scholar famous for the many

witty (and often contentious) remarks that his biographer, James Boswell, recorded and published. Johnson lived at 17 Gough Square from 1748 to 1759. He compiled the first definitive English dictionary (published in 1755) in the attic, where six scribes and assistants stood all day at high desks.

The house, built before 1700, retains some period features and is furnished with 18th-century pieces. There is a small collection of exhibits relating to Johnson and the times in which he lived, including a tea set belonging to his friend Mrs Thrale and pictures of Johnson and his contemporaries. There are also replica Georgian costumes for children to try on.

15 St Andrew, Holborn

5 St Andrew St EC4. **Map** 14 E1.
Tel 020 7583 7394. Chancery Lane.
Open 9am–5pm Mon–Fri.
 1:10pm Tue & Thu, 7pm Wed.
w standrewholborn.org.uk

The medieval church that stood here survived the Great Fire but in 1668, renowned architect Christopher Wren was asked to redesign it. The lower part of the tower is virtually all that remains of the earlier church. One of Wren's most spacious churches, it was gutted during World War II but faithfully restored as the church of the London trade guilds.

Benjamin Disraeli, the Jewish-born prime minister, was baptized here in 1817, at the age of 12. In the 19th century, a charity school was attached to the church.

16 Holborn Viaduct

EC1. **Map** 14 F1. Farringdon, St Paul's, Chancery Lane.

This piece of Victorian ironwork was erected in the 1860s as part of a much-needed traffic scheme. It is best seen from Farringdon Street, which is linked to the bridge by a staircase. Climb up and see the statues of City heroes and bronze images representing Commerce, Agriculture, Science and Fine Arts.



Holborn Viaduct viewed from below on Farringdon Street

17 St Etheldreda's Church

14 Ely Place EC1. **Map** 6 E5. **Tel** 020 7405 1061. **Farringdon.** **Open** 8am–5pm Mon–Sat, 8am–12:30pm Sun. 1pm Mon–Fri, 9am & 11am Sun. stetheldreda.com

Built in 1290, this rare survivor is the oldest Catholic church in England. First the town chapel of the Bishops of Ely, who lived in the since demolished Ely House, the church passed through various hands over the centuries, including those of Sir Christopher Hatton, an Elizabethan courtier, who built Hatton House in the grounds and used the church crypt as a tavern. Rebuilt and restored several times, the church has some stunning stained-glass windows.

18 Hatton Garden

EC1. **Map** 6 E5. Chancery Lane, Farringdon.

Named for Sir Christopher Hatton (*see above*), Hatton Garden is the centre of London's diamond and jewellery district. Millions of pounds change hands daily in scores of small shops with sparkling window displays.

Running parallel to Hatton Garden is Leather Lane, which has a week-day market (10am–2pm Mon–Fri). The varied stalls sell a little of everything.

19 Staple Inn

Holborn WC1. **Map** 14 E1. Chancery Lane.

This building was once the wool staple, where wool was weighed and taxed. The frontage overlooks Holborn and is the only real example of Elizabethan half-timbering left in central London. Although now much restored, it would still be recognizable by someone who had known it in 1586, when it was built. The shops at street level have the feel of the 19th century, and there are some 18th-century buildings in the courtyard.



Staple Inn, a survivor from 1586

20 London Silver Vaults

53–64 Chancery Lane WC2. **Map** 14 D1. **Tel** 020 7242 3844. Chancery Lane, Holborn. **Open** 9am–5:30pm Mon–Fri, 9am–1pm Sat. silvervaultslondon.com

These silver vaults originate from the Chancery Lane Safe Deposit Company, established in the late 19th century. After descending a staircase you pass through steel security doors and reach a nest of underground shops sparkling

with antique and modern silverware. The best examples sell for many thousands of pounds but most shops also offer modest pieces at realistic prices.

21 Gray's Inn

Gray's Inn Rd WC1. **Map** 6 D5. **Tel** 020 7458 7800. Chancery Lane, Holborn. Grounds **Open** noon–2:30pm Mon–Fri. graysinn.org.uk

This ancient legal centre and law school dates to the 14th century though it was largely rebuilt after damage inflicted during World War II. At least one of Shakespeare's plays (*A Comedy of Errors*) was first performed in Gray's Inn hall in 1594. The hall's 16th-century interior screen still survives. The young Charles Dickens was employed as a clerk here in 1827–8. The garden, known as "the Walks" and once a convenient site for staging duels, is open to lunchtime strollers for part of the year. The buildings may be visited only by prior arrangement.



Coffee pot (1716): Silver Vaults



A Selection from our
MENU
Fish & Chips
Burgers & Shakes
Classic London Pie
"Veggie" Sandwich
Soft Drinks and Real Cider

BREAKFAST
Served Daily
from 8:30am
Full English
Breakfast £5.50
Large Bacon
or Sausage & Egg
£4.50
All prices include VAT
and include a glass of water

THE CITY

The capital's financial district, the City of London (or just "the City"), is built on the site of the original Roman settlement. Much of the early City was obliterated by the Great Fire of 1666, though hints can be found in its still jumbled medieval street plan, with names such as Cheapside and Poultry. After the fire, rebuilding was rapid: Christopher Wren (*see* p51) rebuilt dozens

of the city's churches, with his magnificent dome for St Paul's Cathedral rising above them all. These and the halls of the traditional guilds and livery companies are reminders of the City's long history. Now the spires and financial institutions stand alongside four postwar office blocks and some extraordinary modern architecture, such as the Lloyd's building and the Gherkin.

Sights at a Glance

Historic Streets and Buildings

- 1 Mansion House
- 3 Royal Exchange
- 7 Old Bailey
- 8 Apothecaries' Hall
- 9 Fishmongers' Hall
- 12 Old Billingsgate
- 13 Sky Garden
- 15 *Tower of London pp158–61*
- 16 Tower Bridge
- 21 Lloyd's of London

Museums and Galleries

- 4 Bank of England Museum
- 22 Guildhall

Historic Markets

- 20 Leadenhall Market

Monuments

- 11 Monument

Churches and Cathedrals

- 2 St Stephen Walbrook
- 5 St Mary-le-Bow
- 6 *St Paul's Cathedral pp152–5*
- 10 St Magnus the Martyr
- 14 All Hallows by the Tower
- 18 St Helen's Bishopsgate
- 19 St Katharine Cree

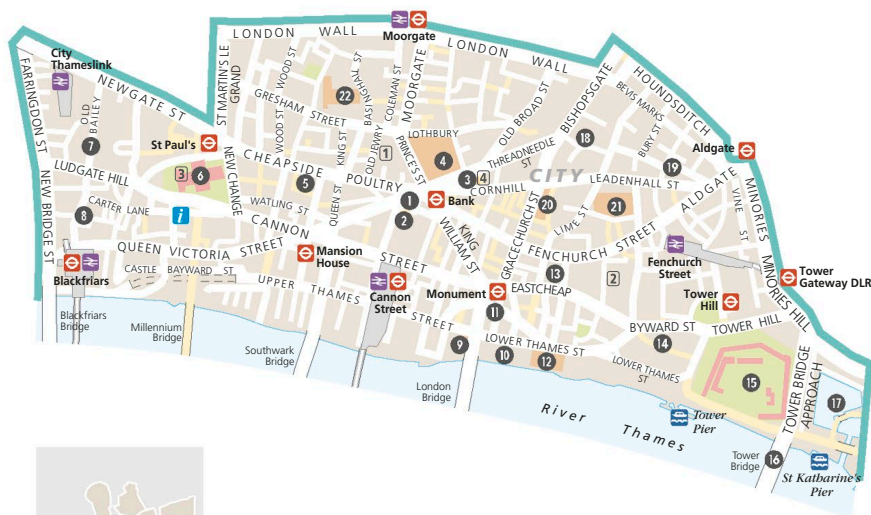
Docks

- 17 St Katharine Docks

Restaurants *see pp302–4*

- 1 Goodman Steakhouse
- 2 Haz Plantation Place
- 3 The Restaurant at St Paul's Cathedral
- 4 Sauterelle

0 metres 500
0 yards 500



Street Finder maps 14, 15, 16

Street-by-Street: The City

This is the business centre of London, home to vast financial institutions such as the Stock Exchange and the Bank of England. Alongside these 19th- and 20th-century buildings stand the architectural visions of Christopher Wren, England's most sublime and probably most prolific architect. After the Great Fire of 1666 he supervised the rebuilding of 52 churches within the area, and enough survive to testify to his genius.

Temple Bar, the last remaining City gateway, formerly on Fleet Street, was installed here in 2004.

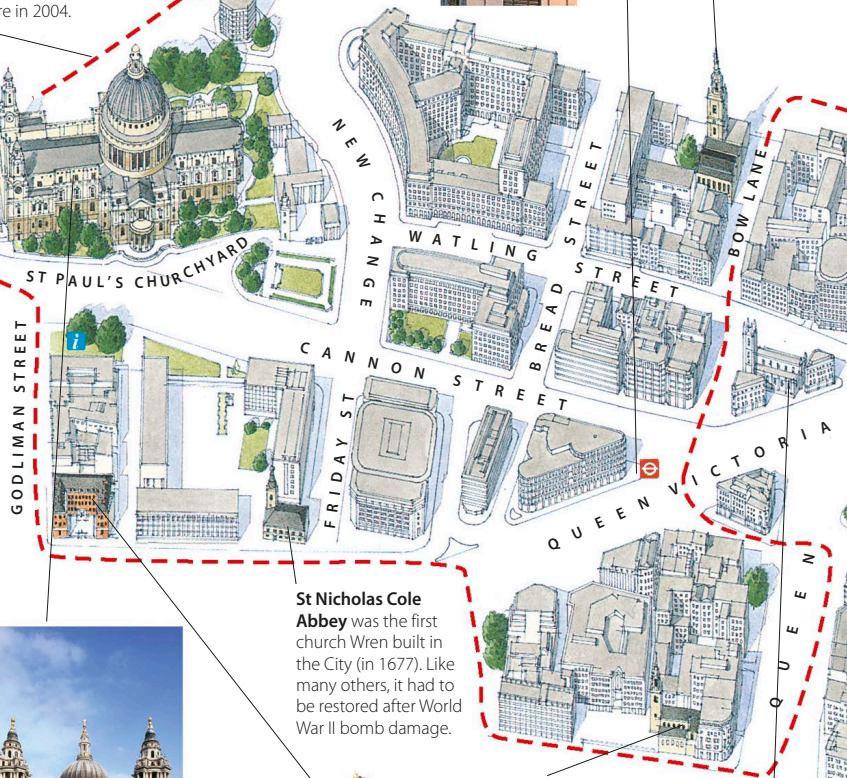
St Paul's station

Mansion House station



5 St Mary-le-Bow

Anyone born within earshot of the bells of this Wren church (the historic Bow Bells) is said to be a true Londoner or Cockney.



St Nicholas Cole Abbey was the first church Wren built in the City (in 1677). Like many others, it had to be restored after World War II bomb damage.

St James Garlickhythe contains unusual sword rests and hat stands. The church's name refers to a medieval Thames wharf where garlic was landed.



6 ★ St Paul's
Wren's masterpiece still dominates the City skyline.



COLLEGE OF ARMS

The **College of Arms** received its royal charter in 1484 from Richard III. Still active today, it assesses who has a legitimate claim to a British family coat of arms.

St Mary Aldermary was rebuilt in Gothic style by Wren after the Great Fire.



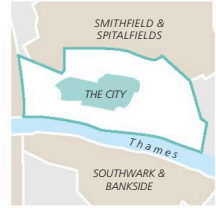
1 Mansion House

The official home of the City of London's Lord Mayor contains a small prison.



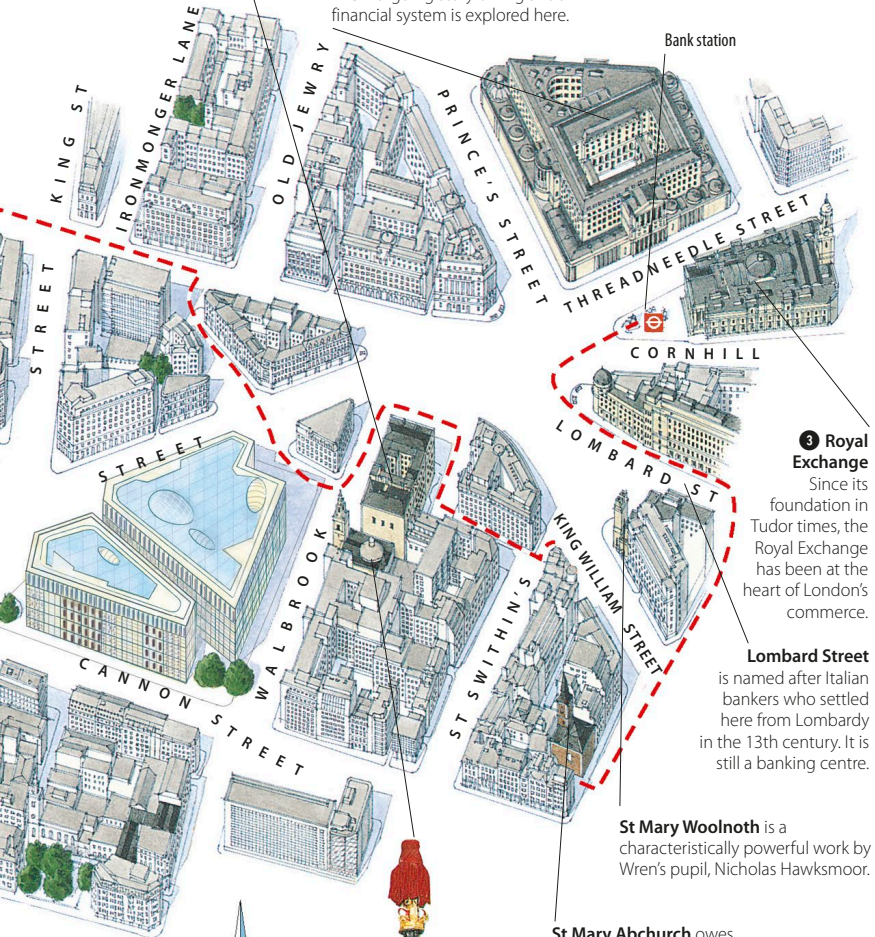
4 ★ Bank of England Museum

The intriguing story of England's financial system is explored here.



Locator Map

See Central London Map pp16–17



3 Royal Exchange

Since its foundation in Tudor times, the Royal Exchange has been at the heart of London's commerce.

Lombard Street

is named after Italian bankers who settled here from Lombardy in the 13th century. It is still a banking centre.

St Mary Woolnoth is a characteristically powerful work by Wren's pupil, Nicholas Hawksmoor.

St Mary Abchurch owes its unusually spacious feel to the large dome designed by Wren. The altar carving is by Grinling Gibbons.

2 ★ St Stephen Walbrook

The dome here is a forerunner to that atop St Paul's. The interior contains original features, such as this font.



Key

— Suggested route

0 metres 100
0 yards 100



1 Mansion House

Walbrook EC4. **Map** 15 B2. **Tel** 020 7626 2500. **Bank**, Mansion House. **Open** to group tours only by appt or 1.45pm Tue on a first-come-first-served basis; check in advance, as tours can be cancelled.   cityoflondon.gov.uk

The official residence of the Lord Mayor was designed by George Dance the Elder and completed in 1758. The Palladian front with its six Corinthian columns is one of the most familiar City landmarks. The state rooms have a

dignity appropriate to the office of mayor, one of the most spectacular being the 27-m (90-ft) Egyptian Hall. There is also an impressive collection of 17th-century Dutch art, including works by Frans Hals.

The cellars once housed 11 holding cells, a reminder of the building's other function as a magistrate's court; the Mayor is chief magistrate of the City during his year of office. Emmeline Pankhurst, who campaigned for women's suffrage in the early 20th century, was once held here.



Egyptian Hall in Mansion House

2 St Stephen Walbrook

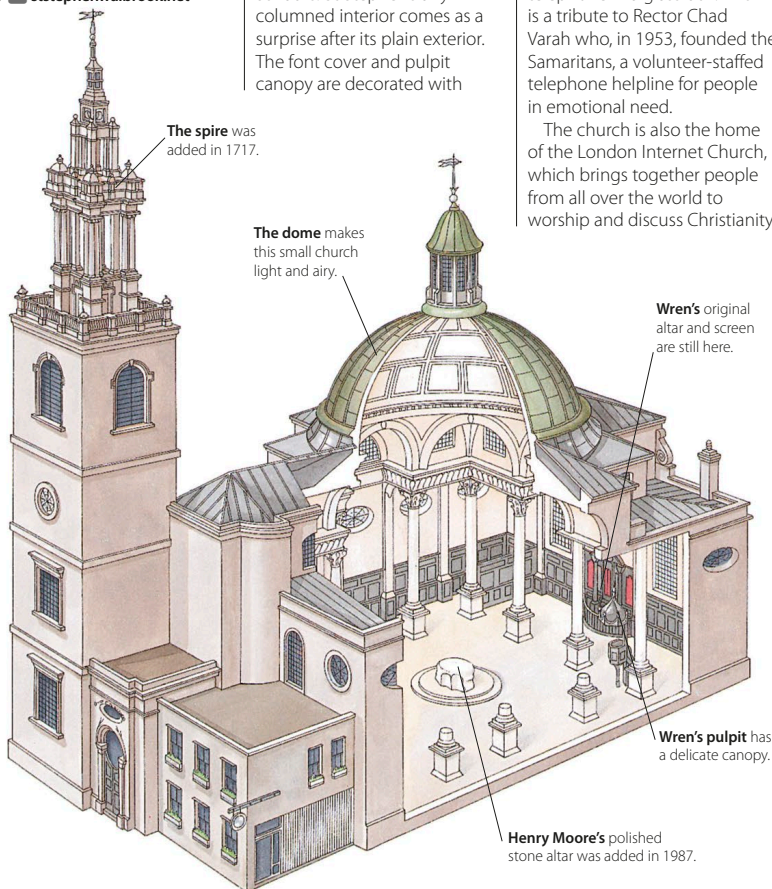
39 Walbrook EC4. **Map** 15 B2. **Tel** 020 7626 9000. **Bank**, Cannon St. **Open** 10am–4pm Mon, Tue & Thu, 11am–3pm Wed, 10am–3:30pm Fri. **F** 12:45pm Thu, sung Mass. Organ recitals 12:30pm Fri. ststephenwalbrook.net

The Lord Mayor's parish church was built by Christopher Wren in 1672–9 and it is considered the finest of his City churches (see p51). The deep, coffered dome, with its ornate plasterwork, was a forerunner of St Paul's. St Stephen's airy columned interior comes as a surprise after its plain exterior. The font cover and pulpit canopy are decorated with

exquisite carved figures that contrast strongly with the stark simplicity of Henry Moore's massive white stone altar (1972), installed in 1987.

However, perhaps the most moving monument of all is a telephone in a glass box. This is a tribute to Rector Chad Varah who, in 1953, founded the Samaritans, a volunteer-staffed telephone helpline for people in emotional need.

The church is also the home of the London Internet Church, which brings together people from all over the world to worship and discuss Christianity.



3 Royal Exchange

EC3. **Map** 15 C2. Bank.
theroyalexchange.co.uk

Sir Thomas Gresham, an Elizabethan merchant and courtier, founded the Royal Exchange in 1565 as a centre for commerce of all kinds. The original building was centred on a vast courtyard where merchants and tradesmen did business. Queen Elizabeth I gave it its royal title and it is still one of the sites from which a new monarch is announced. Dating from 1844, this is the third splendid building on the site since Gresham's.

The building now contains a luxurious shopping centre with designer stores such as Hermès and Paul Smith, and an elegant central bar and café.



The Duke of Wellington (1884), opposite the Bank of England

4 Bank of England Museum

Bartholomew Lane EC2.

Map 15 B1. **Tel** 020 7601 5545.

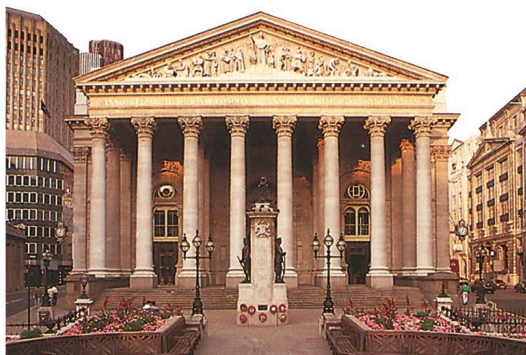
Bank. **Open** 10am–5pm Mon–Fri.

Closed public hols. phone first.

Films, lectures.

bankofengland.co.uk

The Bank of England was set up in 1694 to raise money for foreign wars. It grew to become Britain's central bank, and also issues currency notes. Sir John Soane (see pp140–41) was the architect of the 1788 bank building on this site, but only the exterior wall of his design has survived. The rest was destroyed in the 1920s and 1930s when the building was enlarged. There is now a reconstruction of Soane's



The façade of William Tite's Royal Exchange of 1844

stock office of 1793. Glittering gold bars (which you can touch), silver-plated decoration and a Roman mosaic floor, which was discovered during the rebuilding, are among the items on display, along with a unique collection of banknotes. The museum illustrates the work of the Bank and the financial system.

5 St Mary-le-Bow

(Bow Church) Cheapside EC2. **Map** 15

A2. **Tel** 020 7248 5139. St Paul's,

Mansion House. **Open** 7:30am–6pm

Mon–Wed, 7:30am–6:30pm Thu,

7:30am–4pm Fri. weekdays (see

website for details). by arrange-

ment. stmarylebow.co.uk

The church takes its name from the bow arches in the Norman crypt. When Wren rebuilt the church (in 1670–80) after the Great Fire, he continued this pattern through the arches on the steeple. The weather-vane, dating from 1674, is an enormous dragon.

The church was bombed in 1941, leaving only the steeple and two outer walls standing. It was restored in 1956–62, when the bells were recast and rehung. Bow bells have significance for Londoners: traditionally only those born within their sound can claim to be true Cockneys.

6 St Paul's

See pp152–5.

7 Old Bailey

EC4. **Map** 14 F1. **Tel** 020 7248 3277.

St Paul's. **Open** 9:55am–12:40pm

& 1:55–3:40pm Mon–Fri (reduced

times Aug; opening hours vary from

court to court). **Closed** Easter,

Christmas, New Year, public hols.

cityoflondon.gov.uk

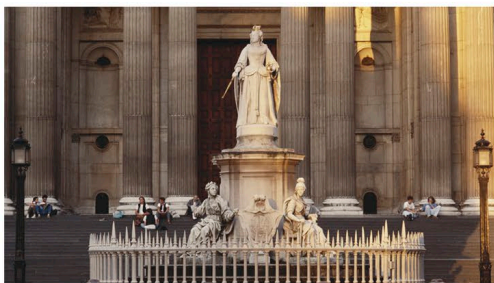
This short street has a long association with crime and punishment. The new Central Criminal Courts opened here in 1907 on the site of the infamous and malodorous Newgate prison (on special days in the legal calendar judges still carry small posies to court as a reminder of those times). Across the road, the Magpie and Stump served “execution breakfasts” until 1868, when mass public hangings outside the prison gates were stopped. Today, when the courts are in session, they are open to members of the public.



Old Bailey's rooftop Justice

6 St Paul's Cathedral

Following the Great Fire of London in 1666, the medieval cathedral of St Paul's was left in ruins. The authorities turned to Christopher Wren to rebuild it, but his ideas met with considerable resistance from the conservative Dean and Chapter. Wren's 1672 Great Model plan was rejected and a watered-down plan was finally agreed in 1675. Wren's determination paid off, though: the cathedral is considered his greatest masterpiece.



Queen Anne's Statue

An 1886 copy of Francis Bird's 1712 original now stands on the forecourt.

KEY

- ① **The West Porch**, approached from Ludgate Hill, is the main entrance to St Paul's.
- ② **The West Portico** comprises two tiers of columns rather than the single colonnade that Wren intended.
- ③ **The pediment** carvings, dating from 1706, show the Conversion of St Paul.
- ④ **The balustrade** along the top was added in 1718, against Wren's wishes.
- ⑤ **The lantern** weighs a massive 700 tonnes.
- ⑥ **The golden gallery** is at the highest point of the dome.
- ⑦ **The brick cone** located inside the outer dome supports the heavy lantern.
- ⑧ **The oculus** is an opening through which the windows at the top of the cone can be seen.
- ⑨ **The stone gallery** offers a splendid view over London.
- ⑩ **The upper screen wall** masks the flying buttresses.
- ⑪ **Flying buttresses** support the nave walls and the dome.
- ⑫ **The North and South Transepts** cross the nave in a medieval style that contrasts with Wren's original plan (see p154).

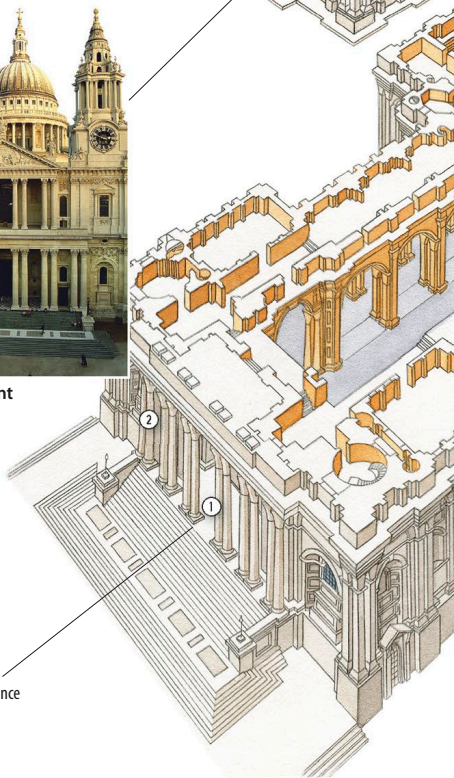
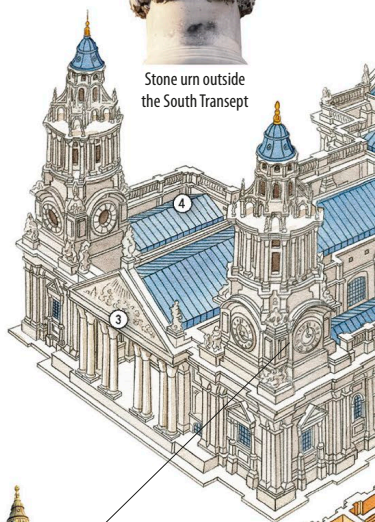


★ **The West Front and Towers**

The towers were not on Wren's original plan – he added them in 1707, when he was 75 years old.



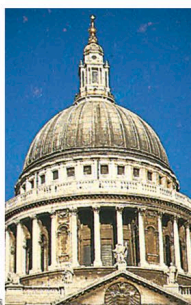
Stone urn outside the South Transept



Main entrance

★ The Dome

At 111 m (365 ft) high, the dome at St Paul's is the second biggest in the world after St Peter's in Rome, and as spectacular from inside as outside.



VISITORS' CHECKLIST

Practical Information

Ludgate Hill EC4. Map 15 A2.

Tel 020 7246 8350.

W stpauls.co.uk

Cathedral **Open** 8:30am–4:30pm (last adm: 4pm) Mon–Sat.

Galleries **Open** 9:30am–4:15pm Mon–Sat. **Closed** for sightseeing on Sun. ☎ times vary. 📺

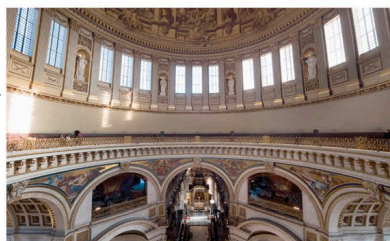
🕒 10am, 11am, 1pm & 2pm Mon–Sat (included in adm). 🗺 included in adm 📶 🚶 use South Churchyard entrance.

Transport

🚶 St Paul's, Mansion House.

🚶 4, 8, 11, 15, 23, 25, 26, 100, 242.

🚶 City Thameslink, Blackfriars.



★ Whispering Gallery

The unusual acoustics here cause whispers to echo around the dome.

South Porch

Wren took the idea of a semi-circular porch from a Baroque church in Rome.



604 Bishop Mellitus builds the first St Paul's. It burned down in 1087

Detail on Tijou gate (see p155).

1666 St Paul's reduced to a ruin after the Great Fire

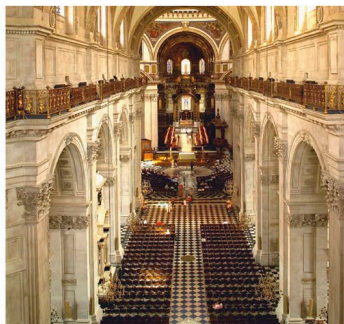
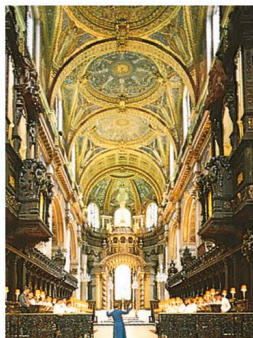
1708 Wren's son Christopher lays the last stone on the lantern

2011 Extensive restorations finished

600	800	1000	1200	1400	1600	1800	2000
1087 Bishop Maurice begins Old St Paul's: a Norman cathedral of stone					1675 Foundation stone of Wren's design laid	1940–41 Severe bomb damage to the cathedral	1981 Prince Charles marries Lady Diana Spencer

A Guided Tour of St Paul's

Visitors to St Paul's will be immediately impressed by its cool, beautifully ordered and extremely spacious interior. The nave, transepts and choir are arranged in the shape of a cross, as in a medieval cathedral, but Wren's Classical vision shines through this conservative floorplan, forced on him by the cathedral authorities. Aided by some of the finest craftsmen of his day, he created an interior of grand majesty and Baroque splendour, a worthy setting for the many great ceremonial events that have taken place here. These include the funeral of Sir Winston Churchill in 1965 and the wedding of Prince Charles and Lady Diana Spencer in 1981.



① The Nave

Take in the full glory of the massive arches and the succession of saucer domes that open out into a huge space below the main dome.

⑨ South Aisle

From here the brave can ascend the 257 steps to the Whispering Gallery and test the acoustics.



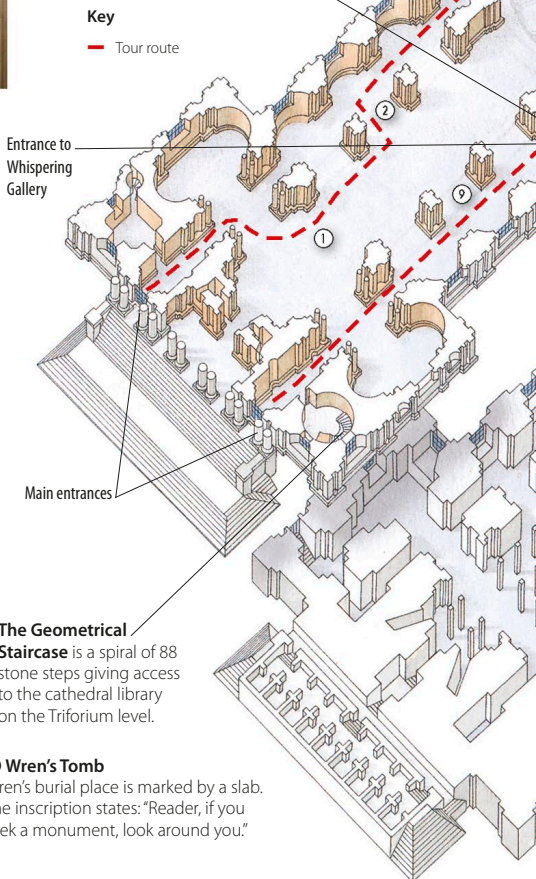
⑧ Florence Nightingale's Memorial

Famous for her pioneering work in nursing standards, Florence Nightingale was the first woman to receive the Order of Merit.

② The North Aisle

As you walk along the North Aisle, look up: the aisles are vaulted with small domes mimicking those of the nave ceiling.

The mosaics on the choir ceiling were completed in the 1890s by William Blake Richmond.



Key

— Tour route

The Geometrical Staircase is a spiral of 88 stone steps giving access to the cathedral library on the Triforium level.

④ Wren's Tomb

Wren's burial place is marked by a slab. The inscription states: "Reader, if you seek a monument, look around you."

③ The Crossing

The climax of Wren's interior is this great open space. The vast dome is decorated with monochrome frescoes by Sir James Thornhill, the leading architectural painter of Wren's time.



④ The Quire

Jean Tijou, a Huguenot refugee, created much of the cathedral's fine wrought ironwork, such as these screens in the quire aisles.



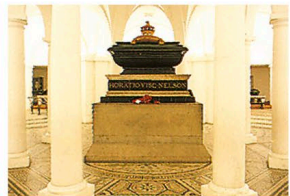
John Donne's memorial, from 1631, was the only monument to survive the Great Fire of 1666 intact. The poet posed for it in his lifetime.

⑤ The High Altar

The canopy over the altar was replaced after World War II. It is based on Wren's original Baroque drawings.

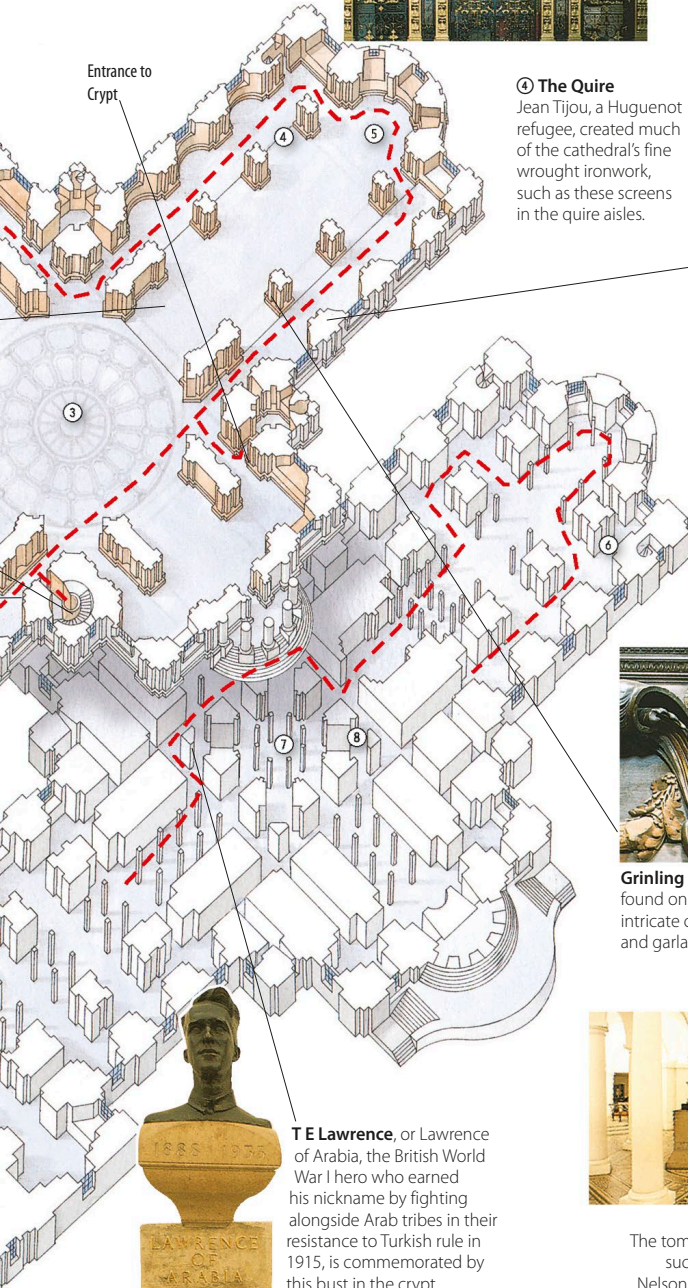


Grinling Gibbons's work can be found on the choirstalls: typically intricate carvings of cherubs, fruits and garlands.



⑦ The Crypt

The tombs of famous figures and such popular heroes as Lord Nelson can be seen in the crypt.




T.E. Lawrence, or Lawrence of Arabia, the British World War I hero who earned his nickname by fighting alongside Arab tribes in their resistance to Turkish rule in 1915, is commemorated by this bust in the crypt.



Apothecaries' Hall, rebuilt in 1670


8 Apothecaries' Hall

Blackfriars Lane EC4. **Map** 14 F2.

Tel 020 7236 1189.  Blackfriars.

Courtyard **Open** 9am–5pm Mon–Fri.


Closed pub hols, end Aug. Phone Hall for appt to visit (groups only).

 apothecaries.org

London has had livery companies, or guilds, to protect and regulate specific trades since early medieval times. The Apothecaries' Society was founded in 1617 for those who prepared, prescribed or sold drugs. It has some surprising alumni, including Oliver Cromwell and the poet John Keats. Now nearly all the members are physicians or surgeons.

9 Fishmongers' Hall

London Bridge EC4. **Map** 15 B3.

Tel 020 7626 3531.  Monument.

Closed to the public. Limited tours by appt only.  fishhall.org.uk



This is home to the Fishmongers' Company, which was established in 1272. Its most illustrious member was Lord Mayor Walworth, who killed Wat Tyler, leader of the Peasants' Revolt, in 1381 (see p166). The company still fulfils its original role; all the fish sold in the City must be inspected by company officials.


10 St Magnus the Martyr

Lower Thames St EC3. **Map** 15 C3.

Tel 020 7626 4481.  Monument.

Open 10am–4pm Tue–Fri.

 12:30pm Tue–Fri, 11am Sun. 

 stmagnusmartyr.org.uk

There has been a church here for over 1,000 years. Its patron saint, St Magnus, Earl of the Orkney Islands and a renowned

Norwegian Christian leader, was brutally murdered in 1116. When Christopher Wren built this church in 1671–6, it was at the foot of old London Bridge, until 1738 the only bridge across the River Thames in London. Anyone going south from the city would have passed under Wren's magnificent arched porch spanning the flagstones leading to the old bridge.


Highlights of St Magnus the Martyr include the carved musical instruments that decorate the organ case. Wren's pulpit, with its slender supporting stem, was restored in 1924.





The altar of St Magnus the Martyr

11 Monument

Monument St EC3. **Map** 15 C2.

Tel 020 7626 2717.  Monument.

Open 9:30am–5:30pm daily (to 6pm Apr–Sep). **Closed** 1 Jan, 24–26 Dec.


  themonument.info

The column designed by Christopher Wren to commemorate the Great Fire of London, which devastated the original walled city in September 1666, is the tallest isolated stone column in the world. It is 61.5 m (202 ft) high and is said to be 61.5 m west of where the fire started in Pudding Lane. It was sited on the direct approach to old London Bridge, which was a few steps downstream from the present one. Reliefs around the column's base show Charles II restoring the city. The 311 steps to the

top lead to a viewing platform, which was enclosed with railings in 1842 after a suicide. The views are spectacular.

12 Old Billingsgate


Lower Thames St EC3. **Map** 15 C3.

 Monument. **Closed** to the public.

London's main fish market was based here for 900 years, on one of the city's earliest quays. During the 19th and early 20th centuries, 400 tonnes of fish were sold here every day, much delivered by boat. It was London's noisiest market, renowned, even in Shakespeare's day, for foul language. In 1982, the market moved from this building (1877) to the Isle of Dogs.

13 The Sky Garden


20 Fenchurch St EC3. **Map** 15 C2.


Tel 020 7337 2344.  Bank,

Monument. **Open** 10am–6pm

Mon–Fri (last adm 5pm), 11am–9pm

Sat & Sun (last adm 8pm). Advance

booking essential.  

 skygarden.london

Completed in 2014, the Rafael Viñoly-designed 20 Fenchurch Street skyscraper is commonly known as the "Walkie-Talkie", thanks to its unusual shape. It has been the most controversial of London's modern towers, partly because its shape and position makes it particularly obtrusive on the city skyline. However, it's one of the few with free, straight-forward public access: simply book a ticket online to the Sky Garden, a large three-level viewing deck at the top of the building. Tickets are released three weeks in advance, and go quickly for popular times. There is also the Sky Pod bar (pre-booking advised) and some pricey restaurants, but these have more limited views.

Thanks to its location, the Sky Garden is a perfect place from which to view London's other mega-structures. To the south, the Shard (see p186) stands majestically alone. To the north are Tower 42, formerly the NatWest Tower (183 m/600 ft); the immediately recognizable

"Gherkin" (180 m/590 ft), and the "Cheesegrater" or Leadenhall Building (224 m/738 ft). Over on Bishopsgate is Heron Tower, at 230 m (755 ft) currently the tallest building in the City.



Greenery flourishing in the Sky Garden, the top deck of the "Walkie-Talkie" building

14 All Hallows by the Tower

Byward St EC3. **Map** 16 D3. **Tel** 020 7481 2928. Tower Hill. **Open** 8am–6pm Mon–Fri, 10am–5pm Sat & Sun (closed for sightseeing during services). **Closed** 26 Dec–2 Jan. 11am Sun. available most weekdays Apr–Oct. for undercroft museum. www.allhallowsbythetower.org.uk

The oldest church in the city, All Hallows by the Tower retains some of its original Saxon features – look for the arch in the southwest corner – plus a Roman pavement, which was discovered in the crypt in 1926.

The church has certainly played its part in history: located close to the Tower of London, it carried out temporary burials of those



Roman tile from All Hallows

executed on Tower Hill, including Thomas More, and it was from the church tower that Samuel Pepys watched the Great Fire consume London in 1666.

15 Tower of London

See pp 158–61.

16 Tower Bridge

SE1. **Map** 16 D3. **Tel** 020 7403 3761. Tower Hill. The Tower Bridge Exhibition: **Open** Apr–Sep: 10am–6pm daily; Oct–Mar: 9:30am–5:30pm daily (from 10am 1 Jan); last adm 30 minutes before. **Closed** 24–26 Dec. book 2 weeks prior. www.towerbridge.org.uk

Completed in 1894, this flamboyant piece of Victorian engineering is a symbol of London. Its pinnacled towers and linking catwalk support the mechanism for raising the roadway when big ships have to pass through, or for special occasions.

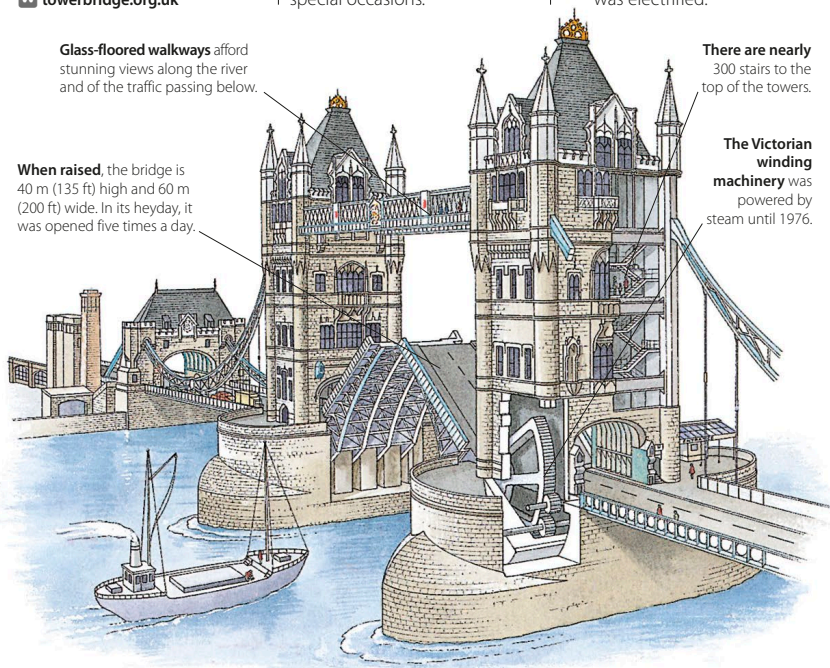
The Tower Bridge Exhibition features interactive displays on the bridge's history, views from the glass-floored catwalk and a close-up look at the steam engine that powered the lifting machinery until 1976, when the system was electrified.

Glass-floored walkways afford stunning views along the river and of the traffic passing below.

When raised, the bridge is 40 m (135 ft) high and 60 m (200 ft) wide. In its heyday, it was opened five times a day.

There are nearly 300 stairs to the top of the towers.

The Victorian winding machinery was powered by steam until 1976.



15 Tower of London

For much of its 900-year history, the Tower was an object of fear. Those who had committed treason or threatened the throne were held within its dank walls. A lucky few lived in comparative comfort, but the majority had to put up with appalling conditions. Many did not get out alive, and some were tortured before meeting violent deaths on nearby Tower Hill.



★ The Jewel House

The magnificent Crown Jewels are housed here (see p160).



Queen's House

This is the official residence of the constables.

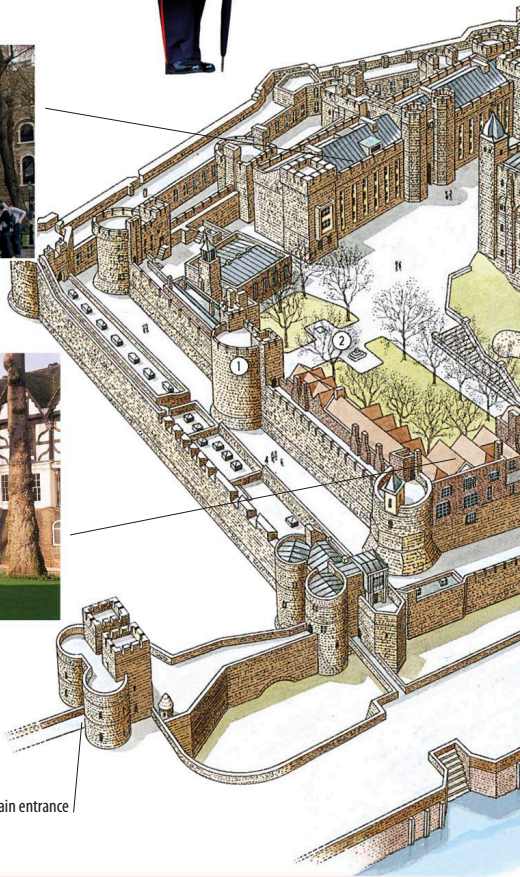
KEY

- ① **Beauchamp Tower** was used for high-ranking prisoners, who were often allowed to keep their own retinues of servants.
- ② **Tower Green** was where the aristocratic prisoners were executed, away from the ghoulish crowds on Tower Hill. But while only ten people died here, including three queens of England, there were hundreds of public executions on Tower Hill.
- ③ **Wakefield Tower**, part of the Medieval Palace, has been carefully refurbished to match its original appearance in the 13th century.
- ④ **The Bloody Tower** is associated with the legend of the two princes and other deaths (see p161).



"Beefeaters"

Thirty-seven Yeoman Warders guard the Tower and live here.



The Ravens

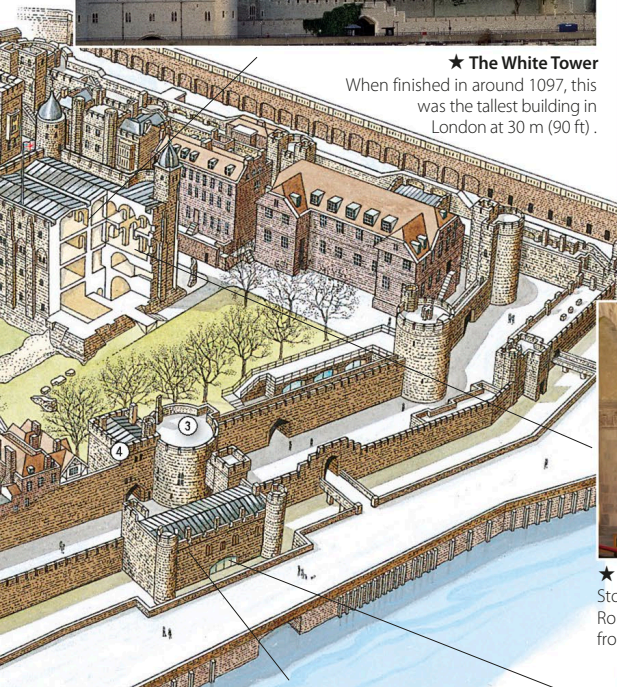
The Tower's most celebrated residents are a small colony of ravens. It is not known when they first settled here, but there is a legend that should they desert the Tower, the kingdom will fall. In fact, the birds have part of their wings trimmed on the right side, making full flight impossible. The Ravenmaster, one of the Yeoman Warders, looks after the birds. A memorial in the moat commemorates some of the ravens who have died at the Tower since the 1950s.





★ The White Tower

When finished in around 1097, this was the tallest building in London at 30 m (90 ft).



VISITORS' CHECKLIST

Practical Information

Tower Hill EC3. **Map** 16 D3.

Tel 0844 482 7799.

W hrp.org.uk

Open Mar–Oct: 9am–5:30pm

Tue–Sat, 10am–5:30pm Sun &

Mon; Nov–Feb: 9am–4:30pm

Tue–Sat, 10am–4:30pm Sun &

Mon. **Closed** 1 Jan, 24–26 Dec.

Yeoman Warder tours

every 30 minutes (last tour

3:30pm summer, 2:30pm winter)

included in admission charge.

Ceremony of the Keys (see pp58–9)

9:30pm daily (book ahead).

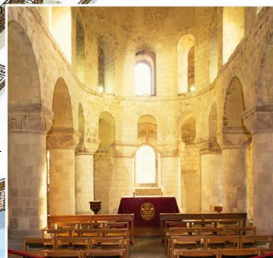
limited.

Transport

Tower Hill, DLR Tower

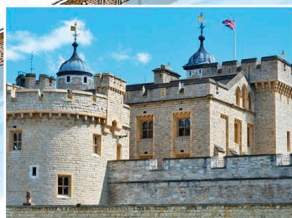
Gateway. RV1, 15, 42, 78, 100.

Fenchurch Street.



★ Chapel of St John

Stone for this austere beautiful Romanesque chapel was brought from France.

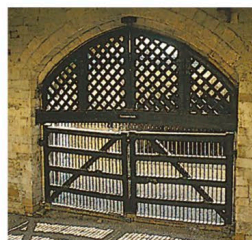


Medieval Palace

This was created by Henry III in 1220. It was enlarged by his son, Edward I, who added Traitors' Gate.

★ Traitors' Gate

Prisoners, many on their way to die, entered the Tower by boat here.



1078 White Tower started	1483 Princes probably murdered in the Tower	1536 Anne Boleyn executed	1553–4 Lady Jane Grey held and executed	1810–15 Mint moves from the Tower and arms stop being manufactured here	
1050	1250	1450	1650	1850	2050
1066 William I erects a temporary castle	1534–5 Thomas More imprisoned and executed	1671 "Colonel Blood" tries to steal Crown Jewels	1834 Menagerie moves out of Tower	1941 Rudolf Hess is the last prisoner held in Queen's House	
1603–16 Walter Raleigh imprisoned in Tower					

Inside the Tower

The Tower has been a tourist attraction since the reign of Charles II (1660–85), when both the Crown Jewels and the collection of armour were first shown to the public. They remain powerful reminders of royal might and wealth.

The Crown Jewels

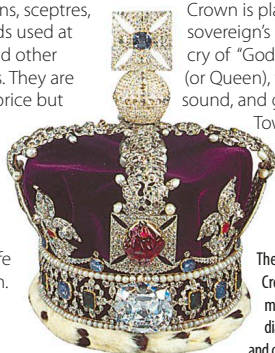
The Crown Jewels comprise the regalia of crowns, sceptres, orbs and swords used at coronations and other state occasions. They are impossible to price but their worth is irrelevant beside their enormous significance in the historical and religious life of the kingdom. Most of the Crown Jewels date from 1661, when a new set was made for the coronation of Charles II; Parliament had destroyed the previous crowns and sceptres after the execution of Charles I in 1649. Only a few pieces survived, hidden by the clergy of Westminster Abbey until the Restoration.

The Coronation Ceremony

Many elements in this solemn and mystical ceremony date from the days of Edward the Confessor. The king or queen proceeds to Westminster Abbey, accompanied by objects of the regalia, including the State Sword, which represents the monarch's own sword. He or she is then anointed with holy oil, to signify divine approval, and invested with ornaments and royal robes. Each of the jewels represents an

aspect of the monarch's role as head of the state and church. The climax comes when St Edward's

Crown is placed on the sovereign's head; there is a cry of "God Save the King" (or Queen), the trumpets sound, and guns at the Tower are fired. The last coronation was Elizabeth II's in 1953.

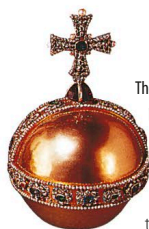


The Imperial State Crown, containing more than 2,800 diamonds, 273 pearls and other gems

The Crowns

There are ten crowns on display at the Tower. Many of these have not been worn for years, but the Imperial State Crown is in regular use. The Queen wears it at the Opening of Parliament (see p58). The crown was made in 1937 for George VI, and is similar to the one made for Queen Victoria. The sapphire set in the cross is said to have been worn in a ring by Edward the Confessor (ruled 1042–66).

The most recent crown is not at the Tower, however. It was made for Prince Charles's investiture as Prince of Wales at Caernarvon Castle in north Wales in 1969, and is kept at the Museum of Wales in Cardiff.



The Orb, symbolizing the power of Christ

The Queen Mother's crown was made for the coronation of her

husband, George VI, in 1937. It is the only one to be made out of platinum – all the other crowns on display at the Tower are made of gold.

Other Regalia

Apart from the crowns, there are other pieces of the Crown Jewels that are essential to coronations. Among these are three Swords of Justice, symbolizing mercy, spiritual and temporal justice. The Orb is a hollow gold sphere encrusted with jewels and weighing about 1.3 kg (3 lb). The Sceptre with the Cross contains the biggest cut diamond in the world, the 530-carat First Star of Africa. The rough stone it comes from weighed 3,106 carats.



The Sovereign's Ring, sometimes referred to as "the wedding ring of England"

Plate Collection

The Jewel House also holds a collection of elaborate gold and silver plates. The Maundy Dish is still used on Maundy Thursday when the monarch distributes money to elderly recipients. The Exeter Salt (a very grand salt cellar from the days when salt was a valuable commodity) was given by the citizens of the city of Exeter to Charles II; during the Civil War Exeter was a Royalist stronghold.



The Sceptre with the Cross (1660), reset in 1910 after Edward VII was presented with the First Star of Africa diamond

The hilt and solid-gold scabbard of the jewelled State Sword, one of the most valuable swords in the world



The White Tower

This is the oldest surviving building in the Tower of London, begun by William I in 1075 and completed before 1079. For centuries it served as an armoury, and much of the national collection of arms and armour is held here. "Fit for a King" showcases 500 years of royal arms and armour, while "Hands on History" (which is set to be revamped in the near future) allows visitors to get to grips with items of weaponry.

The "Power House" exhibition tells the stories of what went on behind the Tower's walls from 1100 to the present day, and brings to life the personalities that lived here.

The Royal Castle and Armour Gallery

These two chambers on the first floor were the main ceremonial rooms of the original Norman castle. The first one, to the east, is the smaller, probably an ante-chamber to the Banqueting Hall beyond, and contains exhibits setting out the history of the White Tower. It adjoins St John's Chapel, a rare example of a virtually intact early Norman chapel, with a a powerfully solid interior and little ornamentation. Originally the two main rooms were twice their present height; a pitched roof was removed in 1490 to allow extra floors to be built on top. Suits of armour from Tudor and Stuart times are here, including three made for Henry VIII, one covering his horse as well. A suit made in Holland for Charles I is decorated in gold leaf.



Japanese armour presented to James I in 1613

The Ordnance Gallery

This and the temporary exhibition gallery next door were chambers created in 1490 when the roof was raised. They were used chiefly for storage, and in 1603 a new floor was installed to allow gunpowder to be kept here; by 1667 some 10,000 barrels of it were stored in the Tower. Among the displays are gilt panels and ornament from the barge of the Master of the Ordnance built in 1700.

The Small Armoury and Crypt

The room at the western end of the ground floor may originally have been a living area, and has traces of the oldest fireplaces known in England. Pistols, muskets, swords, pikes and bayonets are

mounted on the walls and panels in elaborate symmetrical patterns based on displays in the Tower armouries in the 18th and 19th centuries. They were shown in the Grand Storehouse until it burned down in 1841. A collection of weapons taken from the men who planned to assassinate William III in 1696 is on show, and a wooden block made in 1747 for the execution of Lord Lovat – the last public beheading in England – is on the third floor. The crypt now houses a shop.

The Line of Kings

The Line of Kings, ten life-size carvings of prominent English Monarchs, wearing armour and seated on horseback, originated in Tudor times, when eight such figures adorned the royal palace at Greenwich. Two more had been added by the time they first appeared in the Tower in 1660, celebrating the Restoration of Charles II. In 1688, 17 new horses and heads were commissioned, some from the great carver Grinling Gibbons (the third from the left is reputed to be his work).



Henry VIII's armour (1540)

The Princes in the Tower

Now explored in a display in the Bloody Tower, one of the Tower's darkest mysteries concerns two boy princes, sons and heirs of Edward IV. They were put into the Tower by their uncle, Richard of Gloucester, when their father died in 1483. Neither was seen again and Richard was crowned later that year. In 1674, the skeletons of two children were found nearby.





The marina of the restored St Katharine Docks

17 St Katharine Docks

E1. **Map** 16 E3. **Tel** 020 7264 5287.

📍 Tower Hill. 📞 📺 📷 📱
 🌐 skdocks.co.uk

This most central of all London's docks was designed by Thomas Telford and opened in 1828 on the site of St Katharine's Hospital. Commodities as diverse as tea, marble and live turtles (turtle soup was a Victorian delicacy) were unloaded here.

During the 19th and early 20th centuries, the docks flourished, but by the mid-20th century, cargo ships were delivering their wares in massive containers. The old docks became too small and new ones had to be built downstream. St Katharine's closed in 1968.

The redevelopment of St Katharine's has been one of the city's most successful, and the docks now boast commercial, residential and entertainment facilities, as well as a hotel and a marina. Old warehouse buildings have shops and

restaurants on their ground floors, and offices above.

The dock is worth wandering through after visiting the Tower or Tower Bridge (*see pp157–61*). A weekly street food market is held here on Fridays from 11am to 3pm.

18 St Helen's Bishopsgate

Great St Helen's EC3. **Map** 15 C1.

Tel 020 7283 2231. 📍 Liverpool St, Bank. **Open** 9:30am–12:30pm Mon–Fri; some afternoons (phone to check).

⏰ 10:30am, 4pm & 6pm Sun (check website for weekday events). 📞

🌐 st-helens.org.uk

The curious appearance of this 13th-century church is due to its origins as two places of worship: one a parish church, the other the chapel of a long-gone nunnery next door. (The medieval nuns of St Helen's were notorious for their "secular kissing.") Among its monuments is the tomb of Sir Thomas Gresham, who founded the Royal Exchange (*see p151*).

19 St Katharine Cree

86 Leadenhall St EC3. **Map** 16 D1.

Tel 020 7488 4318. 📍 Aldgate, Tower Hill. **Open** 9:30am–4pm Mon–Fri.

Closed Aug ⏰ 8am Tue, 1:05 Wed & Thu 🌐 sanctuaryinthecity.net

A rare pre-Wren 17th-century church with a medieval tower, this was one of only eight churches in the City to survive the fire of 1666. Some of the elaborate plasterwork on and beneath the high ceiling of the nave portrays the coats of arms of the guilds, with which the church has special links. The

17th-century organ, supported on magnificent carved wooden columns, was played by both Purcell and Handel.

20 Leadenhall Market

Whittington Ave EC3. **Map** 15 C2.

Tel 020 7332 1523. 📍 Bank, Monument. **Open** 10am–6pm Mon–Fri. *See Shops and Markets p337.*

📞 🌐 cityoflondon.gov.uk

There has been a food market here, on the site of the Roman forum (*see pp20–21*), since the Middle Ages. Its name comes from a lead-roofed mansion that stood nearby in the 14th century. Today's ornate Victorian covered shopping precinct was designed in 1881 by Sir Horace Jones, the architect of Billingsgate fish market (*see p156*). Leadenhall now has wine shops, cheesemongers, florists and food shops catering to city workers, along with several traditional pubs and wine bars. The area is busiest at breakfast and lunch time. At Christmas the decorated stores are an attractive sight.



The organ at St Katharine Cree

21 Lloyd's of London

1 Lime St EC3. **Map** 15 C2. **Tel** 020

7327 1000. 📍 Bank, Monument, Liverpool St, Aldgate. **Closed** to the public. 🌐 lloyds.com

Lloyd's was founded in the late 17th century and takes its name



St Helen's Bishopsgate

from the coffee house where underwriters and shipowners used to meet to arrange marine insurance contracts. Lloyd's soon became the world's main insurer, issuing policies on everything from oil tankers to Betty Grable's legs.

The present building, by Sir Richard Rogers, dates from 1986 and is one of the most interesting modern buildings in London (see p34). Its exaggerated stainless steel external piping and high-tech ducts echo Rogers' forceful Pompidou Centre in Paris. Lloyd's is a far more elegant building and particularly worth seeing floodlit at night. Nearby is 30 St Mary Axe, otherwise known as "the Gherkin", one of the most recognizable landmarks on the London skyline.

22 Guildhall

Guildhall Yard EC2. **Map** 15 B1.

Tel 020 7332 1313. 📍 St Paul's.

Great Hall: **Open** 10am–4.30pm Mon–Sat (all year), also Sun in May–Sep (may change for events; call ahead to check).

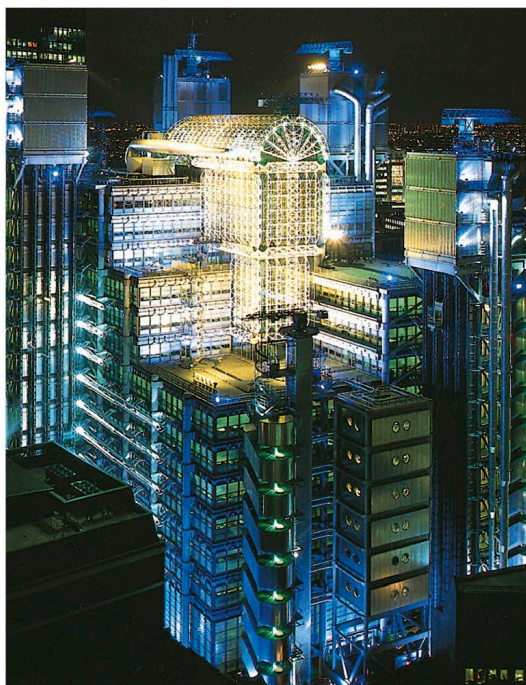
Closed 1 Jan, 25 & 26 Dec. 📱 📺

W guildhall.cityoflondon.gov.uk

St Lawrence Jewry: **Open** 8am–5pm Mon–Fri (9.30am–5pm Aug). Guildhall Art Gallery and amphitheatre **Tel** 020 7332 3700. **Open** 10am–5pm Mon–Fri, noon–4pm Sun. **Closed** 1 Jan, 24–26 Dec. 📱 for temporary exhibitions. 📱 📺 📺

W cityoflondon.gov.uk

Guildhall has been the administrative centre of the City for at least 800 years. For centuries its Great Hall was used for trials and many people were condemned to death here,



Richard Rogers' Lloyd's building illuminated at night

including Henry Garnet, one of the Gunpowder Plot conspirators (see p26). The hall's 15th-century walls are 1.5 m (5 ft) thick, though its arched stone roof is a 20th-century replacement. Overlooking the hall from one end are the figures of legendary giants Gog and Magog, the guardians of the City (these are postwar reproductions of 18th-century models), while statues of notable figures such as Churchill and Nelson line the sides of the 46 m (150 ft) long hall. Each year, a few days

after the Lord Mayor's parade (see p59), the prime minister addresses a banquet here.

On the south side of Guildhall Yard is a Wren-designed church, St Lawrence Jewry, while on the east side is the Guildhall Art Gallery. The original gallery here was built in 1885 to house the art collection of the Corporation of London, but was destroyed in World War II. The present gallery houses the studio collection of 20th-century artist Sir Matthew Smith, portraits from the 16th century to the present day, a gallery of 18th-century works, including John Singleton Copley's *Defeat of the Floating Batteries at Gibraltar*, and numerous Victorian works.

In 1988, the foundations of a Roman amphitheatre were discovered beneath the gallery. Built in AD 70 and with a capacity of about 6,000 spectators, the arena would have hosted animal hunts, executions and gladiatorial combat. Access to the atmospheric ruins is through the art gallery.



The interior of the Guildhall Art Gallery



BIA MARKET
NDON.E.2

COLUMBIA M

MBIA MARKET
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COLUMBIA MARKET
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SMITHFIELD AND SPITALFIELDS

These two areas, just north and east of the City walls, have long offered refuge to those who did not want to come under the City's jurisdiction, or were not welcome there, such as the French Huguenots in the 17th century and, in later times, other immigrants from Europe and then Asia. They founded small industries and brought with them their cuisines and places of worship, and as a result these

are both vibrant, atmospheric quarters. London's traditional meat market still operates at Smithfield, while the markets of Spitalfields, Brick Lane and Columbia Road together form an essential Sunday destination, with their eclectic stalls, vintage fashions, food stands and beautiful blooms. While Smithfield tends to be quiet at weekends, Brick Lane and Spitalfields have a buzzing late-night scene.

Sights at a Glance

Historic Streets and Buildings

- 1 Museum of the Order of St John
- 2 Charterhouse
- 4 Cloth Fair
- 9 Barbican
- 11 Wesley's Chapel—Leysian Mission
- 16 Fournier Street
- 18 19 Princeslet Street
- 19 Brick Lane
- 20 Dennis Severs' House

Museums and Galleries

- 6 Museum of London pp170–71
- 13 Whitechapel Gallery

Churches and Mosques

- 5 St Bartholomew-the-Great
- 7 St Botolph, Aldersgate
- 8 St Giles, Cripplegate
- 15 Christ Church, Spitalfields
- 17 Brick Lane Jammie Masjid
- 21 St Leonard's Church

Cemeteries

- 10 Bunhill Fields

Markets

- 3 Smithfield Market
- 12 Petticoat Lane
- 14 Old Spitalfields Market
- 22 Columbia Road Market

Restaurants *see pp302–4*

- 1 L'Anima
- 2 Boho Mexica
- 3 The Boundary
- 4 Le Café du Marché
- 5 Carnevale
- 6 Cày Tre
- 7 Club Gascon
- 8 The Culpeper
- 9 Galvin la Chapelle
- 10 Hawksmoor
- 11 Pham Sushi
- 12 St John
- 13 Vinoteca

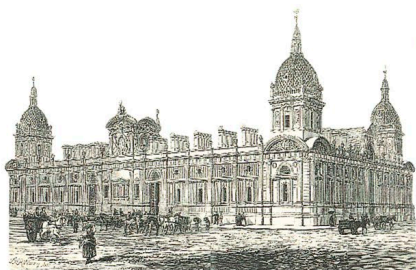


Street Finder maps 6, 7, 8, 15, 16

Street-by-Street: Smithfield

This area is among the most historic in London. It contains one of the capital's oldest churches, some rare Jacobean houses, vestiges of the Roman wall (near the Museum of London) and central London's only surviving whole-sale food market.

Smithfield's long history is also bloody. In 1381, the rebel peasant leader Wat Tyler was killed here by an ally of Richard II as he presented the king with demands for lower taxes. Later, in the reign of Mary I (1553–8), scores of Protestant religious martyrs were burned at the stake here.



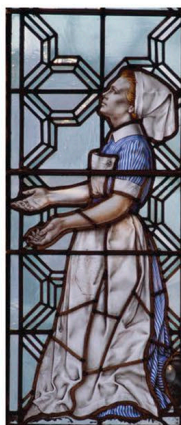
3 ★ Smithfield Market

A contemporary print shows Horace Jones's stately building for the meat market when it was completed in 1867.

Key

— Suggested route

The Golden Boy of Pye Corner is a small statue commemorating the fact that the Great Fire was finally put out on Giltspur Street, saving buildings such as St Bartholomew-the-Great.

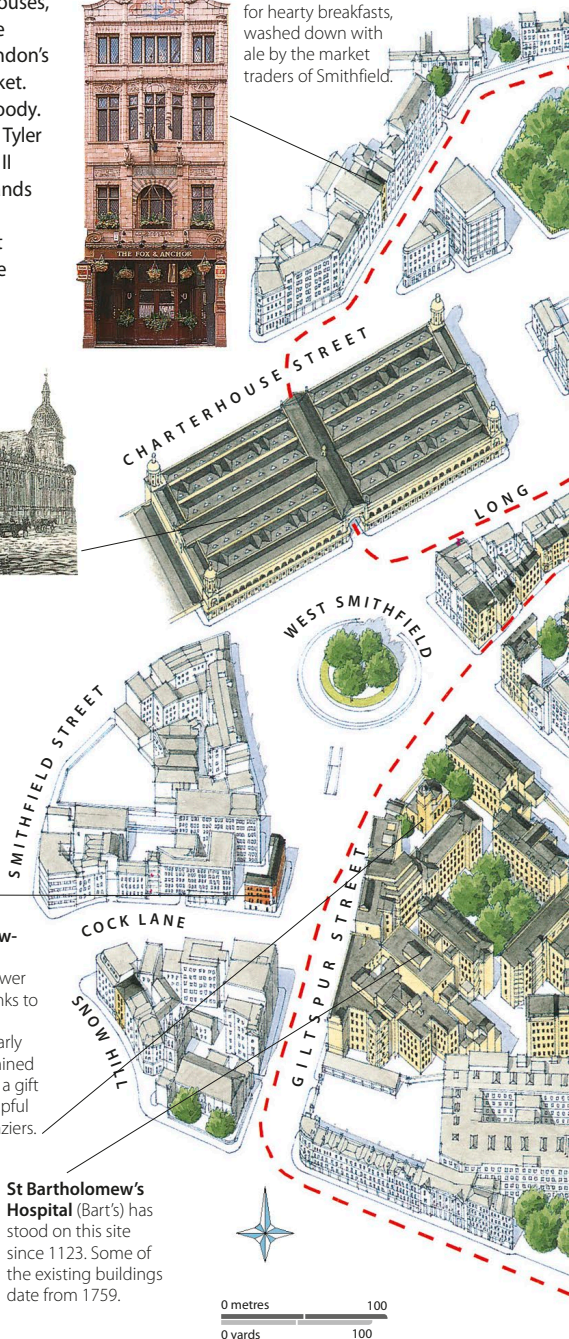


St Bartholomew-the-Less has a 15th-century tower and vestry. Its links to the hospital are shown by this early 20th-century stained glass of a nurse, a gift from the Worshipful Company of Glaziers.

St Bartholomew's Hospital (Bart's) has stood on this site since 1123. Some of the existing buildings date from 1759.

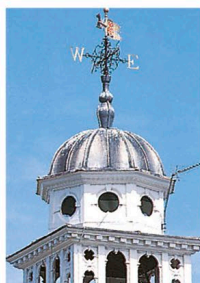


The Fox and Anchor pub is open from 7am for hearty breakfasts, washed down with ale by the market traders of Smithfield.



2 Charterhouse

The square contains the remnants of a medieval monastery and a school where John Wesley (see p172) studied.

**Locator Map**

See Central London Map pp16–17

Barbican station

9 ★ Barbican

World War II bombs flattened this immense site, which was rebuilt as a housing development in the 1960s. It contains the Barbican Centre.



BEECH STREET

ALDERSGATE STREET

4 Cloth Fair

Two of its houses are survivors of the 1666 Great Fire.

5 St Bartholomew-the-Great

This has the best-preserved medieval interior of any London church.

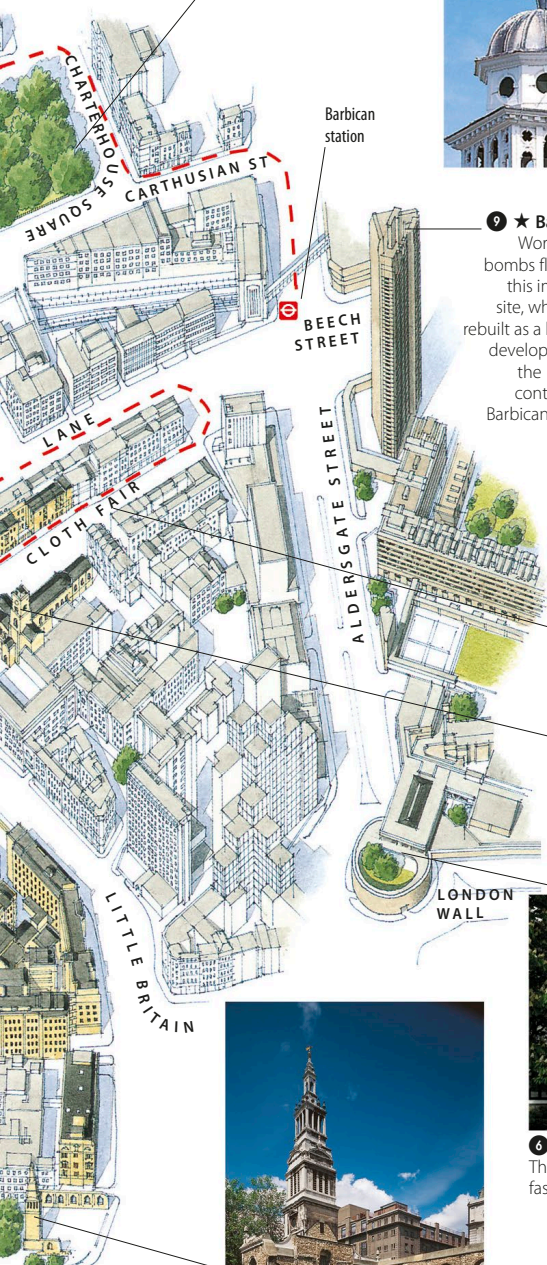
LONDON WALL

**6 ★ Museum of London**

The city's history is told vividly through fascinating exhibits.



Christ Church tower is all that remains of one of Wren's most splendid churches (1704).



→ To St Paul's station



Smithfield Market, now officially known as London Central Markets

1 Museum of the Order of St John

St John's Lane EC1. **Map** 6 F4.

Tel 020 7324 4005. **📍** Farringdon.

Open Jul–Sep: 10am–5pm daily;

Closed Oct–Jun: 10am–5pm Mon–Sat.

Closed Christmas week & bank

holiday weekends. **🕒** 11am & 2:30pm

Tue, Fri, Sat (donation). **🚶** **♿** limited.

🌐 museumstjohn.org.uk

The Tudor gatehouse and parts of the 12th-century church are all that remain of the priory of the Knights of St John, which flourished here for 400 years and was the precursor of the St John Ambulance. Over the years, the priory buildings have had many uses, such as offices for Elizabeth I's Master of the Revels and a coffee shop run by the artist William Hogarth's father. The museum of the order's history has been renovated to create an exhibition space showing hidden parts of the gatehouse and a learning space in the priory church. The rest of the building can be seen on guided tours.

2 Charterhouse

Charterhouse Sq EC1. **Map** 6 F5.

📍 Barbican. **Open** for **📱**

2.15pm Tue–Thu and alternate

Sats, book well ahead (see

website for details).

🌐 thecharterhouse.org

The Tudor gateway on the north side of the square leads to the site of a former Carthusian monastery, which was dissolved under Henry VIII. In 1611, the buildings

were converted into a hospital for poor pensioners, and a charity school – called Charterhouse – whose pupils included John Wesley (see p172), writer William Thackeray and Robert Baden-Powell, founder of the Boy Scouts. In 1872, the school, now a top boarding school, relocated to Godalming in Surrey. Part of the original site was subsequently taken over by St Bartholomew's Hospital medical school. Some of the old buildings remain, including the chapel and part of the cloisters. Today Charterhouse is still home to more than 40 pensioners, who are supported by the charitable foundation.



3 Smithfield Market

Charterhouse St EC1.

Map 6 F5. **📍**

Farringdon, Barbican.

Open 2–9am Mon–

Fri. **Closed** public hols.

🌐 smithfieldmarket.com

Animals have been traded here since the 12th century, but the site was granted its first official charter in 1400. In 1648, it was officially established as a cattle market and live cattle

Stone carving stands atop Charterhouse

continued to be sold here until the mid-19th century. It now confines itself to wholesale trading in meat and poultry. It was originally sited in Smithfield, outside the city walls. Although moved to its present location in Charterhouse Street in the 1850s and called the London Central Meat Market, the original name stuck. The old buildings are by Victorian architect Horace Jones, but there are 20th-century additions. Some pubs in the area keep market hours, serving hearty breakfasts from dawn. After much-needed modernization, the market is now one of the best equipped meat markets in the world. Visitors should aim to arrive by 7am.



A 17th-century townhouse on Cloth Fair

4 Cloth Fair

EC1. **Map** 6 F5. **📍** Barbican.

This attractive street is named after the notoriously rowdy Bartholomew Fair, which was the main cloth fair in medieval and Elizabethan England, held annually at Smithfield until 1855. Nos. 41 and 42 are fine examples of 17th-century architecture and have distinctive two-storey wooden bay windows, although their ground floors have since been modernized. The former Poet Laureate John Betjeman, who died in 1984, lived at No. 43 for most of his life.

5 St Bartholomew-the-Great

West Smithfield EC1. **Map** 6 F5. **Tel** 020 7600 0440. **Barbican**. **Open** 8:30am–5pm Mon–Fri (to 4pm mid-Nov–mid-Feb), 10:30am–4pm Sat, 8:30am–8pm Sun. **Closed** Christmas week. **+** 9am, 11am, 6:30pm Sun. **by appt.** **Concerts.** **greatstbarts.com**

One of London's oldest churches, St Bart's was founded in 1123 by the monk Rahere, whose tomb is inside. A courtier of Henry I, he dreamed that the saint saved him from a winged monster.

The 13th-century arch used to be the door to the church until the nave of that earlier building was pulled down when Henry VIII dissolved the priory.

Today the arch leads from West Smithfield to the burial ground; the gatehouse above it is from a later period. The present building retains the crossing and chancel of the original, with its round arches and other fine Norman detailing. There are also some fine Tudor monuments. In the south transept is a shining gilded statue of St Bartholomew by Damien Hirst

Parts of the church have been used for secular purposes. In 1725, US statesman Benjamin Franklin worked for a printer in the Lady Chapel. The church also featured in the films *Four Weddings and a Funeral*, *Shakespeare in Love* and *The Other Boleyn Girl*. The café in the cloisters is a peaceful spot.

6 Museum of London

See pp170–71.

7 St Botolph, Aldersgate

Aldersgate St EC1. **Map** 15 A1. **Tel** 020 7283 1670. **St Paul's, Barbican, Moorgate**. **Open** 9am–3pm Mon–Fri. **+** 1pm Tue & Thu, 10:30am Sun. **by appt.**

A modest late Georgian exterior (completed in the late 18th century) conceals a flamboyant, well-preserved interior with

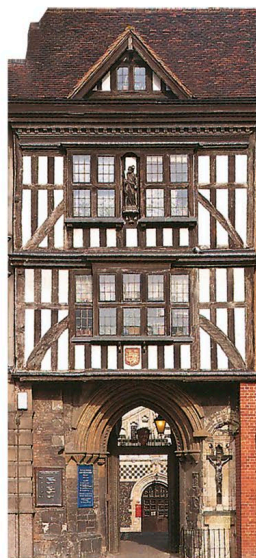
a finely decorated plaster ceiling, a rich brown wooden organ case and galleries, and an oak pulpit resting on a carved palm tree. The original box pews have been kept in the galleries rather than in the body of the church. Some of the memorials come from a 14th-century church that originally existed on the site.

The former churchyard alongside was converted in 1880 into a green space known as Postman's Park, because it was used by workers from the nearby Post Office headquarters. In the late 19th century, the Victorian artist G F Watts dedicated one of the walls to a quirky collection of plaques that commemorate people – often children – who sacrificed their lives to save others. Each is remembered on a hand-painted tile. There are three St Botolph churches in the City; the other two can be found at Aldgate and in Bishopsgate.

8 St Giles, Cripplegate

Fore St EC2. **Map** 7 A5. **Tel** 020 7638 1997. **Barbican, Moorgate**. **Open** 11am–4pm Mon–Fri. **+** 8am Mon–Fri, 8am, 10am & 4pm Sun. **2–5pm** Tue. **stgilescripplegate.co.uk**

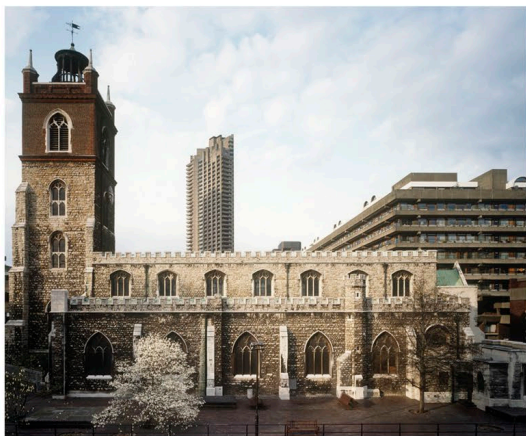
Completed in 1550, this church survived the ravages of the Great Fire in 1666, but was so



St Bartholomew's gatehouse

badly damaged by a World War II bomb that only the tower survived. St Giles was refurbished during the 1950s to serve as the parish church of the Barbican, and now stands awkwardly amidst the stark modernity of the area. It is one of the few UK churches to boast two complete organs.

Here, Oliver Cromwell married Elizabeth Bourchier in 1620 and the poet John Milton was buried in 1674. Well-preserved remains of London's Roman and medieval walls can be seen to the south.



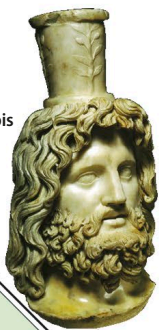
St Giles, Cripplegate

6 Museum of London

Opened in 1976 on the edge of the Barbican, this museum provides a lively account of London life from prehistoric times to the present day. Reconstructed interiors and street scenes alternate with displays of original domestic artifacts and items found on the museum's archaeological digs. The museum underwent a huge expansion in 2010, and a specially built central space has since been added to display sections of the Thomas Heatherwick-designed Olympic 2012 torch.

★ Marble Head of Serapis

This statue of the Egyptian god of the underworld (2nd–3rd century) was discovered in the temple of Mithras.



Oliver Cromwell's Death Mask

This plaster copy made from a wax impression is a permanent record of how he looked.



Boy's Leather Jerkin

This practical sleeveless jacket (c.1560), decorated with punched hearts and stars, would have been worn over a doublet for extra warmth.



Flint Hand Axe

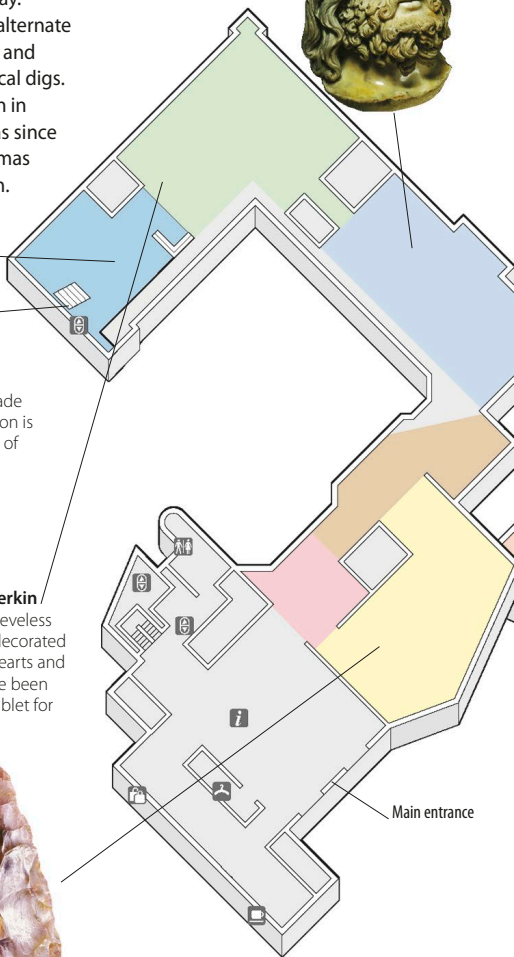
Thousands of these cutting tools (c.350,000–120,000 BC) have been found in the gravels beneath modern London.

Key

- 450,000 BC–AD 50: London before London
- AD 50–410: Roman London
- AD 410–1558: Medieval London
- 1550s–1660s: War, Plague and Fire
- 1670s–1850s: Expanding City
- Victorian Walk
- Sackler Hall
- 1850s–1940s: People's City
- 1950s–Today: World City
- Inspiring London
- Linbury Gallery
- City Gallery
- Temporary Exhibitions
- London 2012 Cauldron: Designing a Moment

Gallery Guide

The galleries are laid out chronologically, starting on the entrance level with prehistory. Visitors can walk through Roman and medieval London galleries to the War, Plague and Fire gallery, which includes a special display on the Great Fire. On the lower level, they can learn about London from 1666 to the present day, and see the Lord Mayor of London's spectacular State Coach.





Tobacconist

The Victorian Walk uses several original shop fronts and objects to recreate the atmosphere of late 19th-century London.

VISITORS' CHECKLIST

Practical Information

London Wall EC2.

Map 15 A1.

Tel 020 7001 9844.

www.museumoflondon.org.uk

Open 10am–6pm daily.

Closed 24–26 Dec. Induction loops fitted.

Lectures, film presentations.

Transport

Barbican, St Paul's, Moorgate.

4, 8, 25, 56, 100, 172, 242, 521.

City Thameslink, Liverpool Street, Farringdon.

The Expanding City Gallery explores London after the Great Fire.



Ignazio Pluchino Shoes

The Sicilian opened his shoemaking business in London in 1900. He made high quality shoes for the wealthy.



Selfridges Lift

These bronze and cast iron Brandt Edgar lifts were installed in 1928.

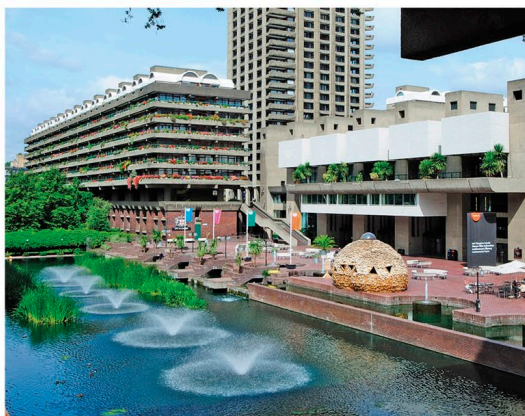


★ Lord Mayor's Coach

Finely carved and painted, this gilded coach (c.1757) is paraded once a year during the Lord Mayor's Show (see p59).

Beatles Dress
Made in 1964, this cotton dress is printed with the Beatles' faces alongside a guitar that features their signatures.





The Barbican Centre and surrounding residential blocks

9 Barbican

Silk St EC2. **Map** 7 A5. **Tel** 020 7638 8891. Barbican, Moorgate. Barbican Centre **Open** 9am–11pm Mon–Sat, 11am–11pm Sun, public hols. Art galleries: 10am–6pm daily (to 9pm Thu & Fri). Conservatory: 11am–5pm, most Suns (check website for days). induction loop. See *Entertainment* pp345–8. barbican.org.uk

An ambitious piece of 1960s city planning, this residential, commercial and arts complex was begun in 1962 on a site devastated by World War II bombs, and not completed for nearly 20 years. Residential tower blocks surround the Barbican Centre, a prestigious arts complex, which also includes an ornamental lake and fountains.

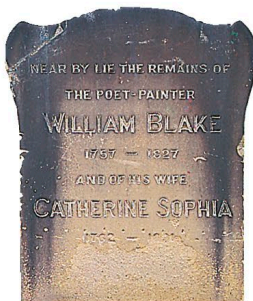
The old city wall turned a corner here and substantial remains of the fortifications are still clearly visible (particularly so from the Museum of London – see pp170–71). The word *barbican* means a defensive tower over a gate and in a sense the modern complex retains the air of a self-sufficient community, with formidable defences against the outside world. Obscure entrances and raised walkways remove pedestrians from the cramped bustle of the City, but, in spite of the signposts and yellow lines on the pavement, the complex can be difficult to navigate.

As well as two theatres and a concert hall, the Barbican Centre has two cinemas, two galleries and an excellent library. It is also home to the London Symphony Orchestra and the Guildhall School of Music and Drama. One of its more surprising features is a large conservatory; this tropical oasis, containing over 2,000 plants, makes a delightful refuge on a chilly afternoon.

10 Bunhill Fields

City Rd EC1. **Map** 7 B4. **Tel** 020 7374 4127 (City Gardens). Old Street. **Open** Apr–Sep: 8am–7pm (or dusk) Mon–Fri, 9:30am–7pm (or dusk) Sat, Sun & public hols; Oct–Mar: 8am–4pm Mon–Fri; 9:30am–4pm Sat, Sun & public hols. **Closed** 1 Jan, 25 & 26 Dec. Apr–Oct: 12:30pm Wed phone first. cityoflondon.gov.uk

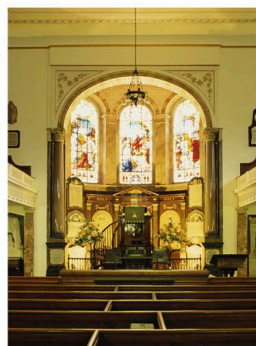
The burial ground was first designated a cemetery after the Great Plague of 1665 (see



William Blake's gravestone at Bunhill Fields

p27), when it was enclosed by a brickwall and gates. Twenty years later it was allocated to Non-conformists, who were banned from being buried in churchyards because of their refusal to use the Church of England prayer book.

The cemetery is situated on the edge of the City, and shaded by large plane trees. There are monuments to the well-known writers Daniel Defoe, John Bunyan and William Blake, as well as to members of the Cromwell family. John Milton wrote his epic poem *Paradise Lost* while he lived in Bunhill Row, located on the west side of the cemetery.



Wesley's Chapel, with a museum to the Methodist church John Wesley founded

11 Wesley's Chapel–Leysian Mission

49 City Rd EC1. **Map** 7 B4. **Tel** 020 7253 2262. Old Street, Moorgate. **Open** 10am–4pm Mon–Sat. **Closed** between Christmas & New Year, public hols (except Good Friday). 9:45am (not 1st Sun of month), 11am Sun, 7am Mon, 12:45pm Wed & Thu. groups book ahead. Free lunchtime recitals: Thu. wesleyschapel.org.uk

John Wesley, the founder of the Methodist church, laid this chapel's foundation stone in 1777. He preached here until his death in 1791, and is buried behind the chapel. Next door is the house where he lived, where some of his furniture, books and other possessions can be seen.

The chapel, in accordance with Wesley's austere religious

principles, has columns made from ships' masts. Baroness Thatcher, the first female British prime minister (1979–90), was married here. Beneath the chapel is a small museum devoted to the history of Methodism.

12 Petticoat Lane

Middlesex St E1. **Map** 16 D1.

📍 Aldgate East, Aldgate, Liverpool St. **Open** Main market 9am–2pm Sun; smaller market on Wentworth St 8am–4pm Mon–Fri. See *Shops and Markets* p337.

In Queen Victoria's prudish reign, the name of this street, long famous for its market, was changed to the respectable but colourless Middlesex Street. That is still its official designation, but the old name, derived from the petticoats and lace sold here by the Huguenots who came from France, has stuck, and is now applied to the market held every Sunday morning in this and the surrounding streets. Numerous attempts were made to stop the market, but it was allowed by Act of Parliament in 1936. Though the street is not particularly attractive, having suffered wartime bomb damage, the lively market creates plenty of atmosphere. A great variety of goods is sold but there is still a bias towards clothing, especially leather coats. The

atmosphere is noisy and cheerful, with Cockney stallholders making use of their wit to attract custom. There are scores of snack bars for pitstops.

13 Whitechapel Gallery

77–82 Whitechapel High St E1. **Map** 16 E1. **Tel** 020 7522 7888. 📍 Aldgate East, Aldgate. **Open** 11am–6pm Tue–Sun, (to 9pm Thu). **Closed** 1 Jan, 24–26 Dec. 🖼️ occasionally for exhibitions. 📱 📺 📺 Wide range of talks & events. www.whitechapelgallery.org

A striking Art Nouveau façade by C Harrison Townsend fronts this light, airy gallery, founded in 1901 and expanded in the 1980s and again in 2007–9. Situated close to Brick Lane and the area's burgeoning art scene, this independent gallery was founded with the aim of bringing great art to the people of East London. Today it enjoys an international reputation for high-quality shows of major contemporary artists and for events, talks, live performances, films and art-themed evenings (especially on the first Thursday of each month, when many galleries in the area open late). In the 1950s and 1960s, the likes of Jackson Pollock, Anthony Caro, Robert Rauschenberg and John Hoyland all displayed their work here. In 1970 David



Whitechapel Gallery, expanded to include the former library next door

Hockney's first exhibition was held here. The gallery has a well-stocked arts bookshop and a relaxed café-bar.

14 Old Spitalfields Market

Commercial St E1. **Map** 8 D5. 📍 Liverpool St, Aldgate. **Open** General market stalls: 10am–5pm Sun–Wed (from 9am Sun); antiques & vintage: 9am–5pm Thu; fashion & art: 10am–4pm Fri. Regular themed market days including record fairs: 11am–5pm Sat (check website listings). See *Shops and Markets* p337. www.oldsitalfieldsmarket.com

Produce has been traded at Spitalfields market since 1682. In 1887 the original covered market buildings were completed, later expanded in the 1920s. The vegetable market moved out in 1991, after which today's version of the market – known for antiques, fashion, bric-a-brac and craft stalls – started to take shape. In the early 2000s, the 1920s western extension made way for offices and the rest was renovated and redeveloped. Now the market space is a mix of new units housing restaurants and shops and traditional market space. It's open during the week, but it is on Sundays that crowds come in search of vintage clothing and unique items. More new designers and unusual stalls abound in other nearby Sunday markets, particularly in the Old Truman Brewery off Brick Lane (see p174).



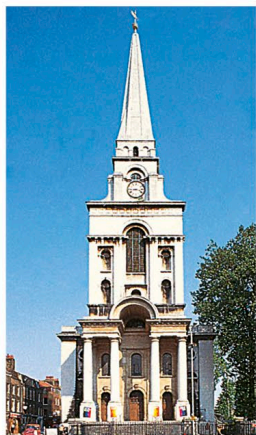
Bustling Petticoat Lane Market

15 Christ Church, Spitalfields

Commercial St E1. **Map** 8 E5. **Tel** 020 7377 6793.  **Liverpool St. Open** 10am–4pm Mon–Fri (unless in use as venue), 1–4pm Sun.  1:10pm Tue, 8:30am, 10:30am & 5pm Sun.   book ahead. Concerts.  ccspitalfields.org

The finest of Nicholas Hawksmoor's six churches, Christ Church was commissioned by parliament in the Fifty New Churches Act of 1711, aimed at combating the threat of Nonconformism. It was intended to make a powerful statement in an area fast becoming a Huguenot stronghold. (The Protestant Huguenots had fled from persecution in Catholic France and came to Spitalfields to work in the local silkweaving industry.)

Completed in 1729, the building was mauled by alterations in the 1850s. By 1960 it was derelict, narrowly escaping demolition. In 1976 the Friends of Christ Church Spitalfields was formed to restore the building to its former glory – a goal achieved in 2004. The impression of size and strength created by its portico and spire is continued inside by such features as the high ceiling and the gallery. Now used for music events, it is one of the main venues for the Spitalfields music festivals in June and December.



Christ Church, Spitalfields, dominates the surrounding streets





Beautifully preserved 18th-century houses on Fournier Street

16 Fournier Street

E1. **Map** 8 E5.  Aldgate East.

The 18th-century houses on the north side of this street have attics with broad windows that were designed to give maximum light to the silkweaving French Huguenot community who lived here. While the textile trade lives on in the area, still dependent on immigrant labour, Fournier Street itself has become a smart address for the art crowd.

17 Brick Lane Jamme Masjid

59 Brick Lane E1. **Map** 8 E5. **Tel** 020 7247 6052.  **Liverpool St.** Aldgate East.  bricklanejammemasjid.co.uk

The history of this Grade II-listed building reflects centuries of immigration in the area. Built in 1743 as a Huguenot chapel, it was a synagogue in the 19th century, a Methodist chapel in the early 20th century, and has been a mosque since 1976.

18 19 Princelet Street

19 Princelet St E1. **Map** 8 E5. **Tel** 020 7247 5352.  **Liverpool St. Open** infrequently, check website for dates.  19princeletstreet.org.uk

This 1719 Huguenot silk merchant's house, with a Victorian synagogue hidden

within, epitomizes the area's multicultural history. Now it exists as a museum of immigration, with exhibitions celebrating the Jewish and other peoples who arrived and settled in London's East End. It is hoped that, with funding this historic gem can be developed into a permanent centre.

19 Brick Lane

E1. **Map** 8 E5.  **Liverpool St.** Aldgate East, Shoreditch. Market **Open** dawn–noon Sun. See *Shops and Markets* p335.  visitbricklane.org

Once a lane running through brickfields, Brick Lane has long been synonymous with the many curry houses that line it, and the British-Bangladeshi community that has long thrived here. Now the restaurants sit next to hip galleries and quirky boutiques. Shops and houses, some dating from the 18th century, have seen immigrants of many nationalities, and ethnic foods, spices, silks and saree are all on sale here. In the 19th century this was a predominantly Jewish quarter, and some Jewish shops remain, including a 24-hour bagel shop at No. 159.

On Sundays, a large market is held here and in the surrounding streets. At the northern end of Brick Lane is the Old Truman Brewery, a medley of 18th- and 19th-century industrial architecture, now home to an eclectic mix of bars, shops and markets: five separate markets at weekends sell food, vintage clothes and new fashions.



Authentic Indian pastries, biscuits and sweets for sale in Brick Lane



The grand bedroom of Dennis Severs' House

20 Dennis Severs' House

18 Folgate St E1. **Map** 8 D5.

Tel 020 7247 4013. **📍** Liverpool St.

Open noon–4pm Sun, noon–2pm Mon (last adm: 1:15pm), 5–9pm, Wed & Fri. Private and group bookings welcome. **📱**

🌐 dennissevershouse.co.uk

At No. 18 Folgate Street, built in 1724, the late designer and performer Dennis Severs recreated a historical interior that takes you on a journey from the 17th to the 19th centuries. It offers what he called “an adventure of the imagination... a visit to a time-mode rather than... merely a look at a house”. The rooms are like a series of *tableaux vivants*, as if the occupants had simply left for a moment. There is bread on the plates, wine in the glasses, fruit in the bowl; the candles flicker and horses’ hooves clatter on the cobbles

outside. This highly theatrical experience is far removed from more usual museum recreations and is not suitable for the under-12s. Praised by many, including artist David Hockney, it is truly unique. The house’s motto is “you either see it or you don’t”.

Around the corner on Elder Street are two of London’s earliest surviving terraces, where many of the Georgian red-brick houses have been carefully restored.

21 St Leonard's Church

Shoreditch High St E1. **Map** 8 D3.

Tel (box office) 020 7377 1362.

📍 Old Street, Liverpool Street.

Open Mar–Oct: noon–2pm Mon–Fri.

⛪ 10:30am Sun. **🎵** Concerts and theatrical performances.

🌐 shoreditchchurch.org.uk

Standing as it does on the spot where several major

Roman roads converged, this has been a site of worship for millennia. The Norman St Leonard’s was the original “actors’ church” and many famous names of Tudor theatre are buried in the crypt, including Richard Burbage, who played the first Hamlet, Macbeth and Romeo, and his brother Cuthbert, founder of the Globe Theatre.

Erected in 1736–40, the current Palladian-style church is the oldest building in Shoreditch. Its fine acoustics make it popular as a performance space with musicians.

22 Columbia Road Market

Columbia Rd E2. **Map** 8 D3.

📍 Liverpool St, Old St, Bethnal Green.

Open 8am–3pm Sun. See *Shops and Markets* p336. **🌐** columbiaroad.info

A visit to this flower and plant market is one of the most delightful things to do on a Sunday morning in London, whether you want to take advantage of the exotic species on offer or not – though it’s hard to resist, as prices are competitive and the range impressive. Set in a well-preserved street of small Victorian shops, it is a lively, sweet-smelling and colourful event. Apart from the stalls, there are several shops selling, among other things, home-made bread and farmhouse cheeses, antiques and interesting objects, many flower-related. There are also cafés, a tapas bar and pubs to refuel at along the street.



Columbia Road flower market presents beautiful blooms on a Sunday morning



Specialist Potatoes

QUALITY
POTATOES

AARON
VICTORY

QUALITY
POTATOES

SOUTHWARK AND BANKSIDE

Southwark once offered an escape from the City, a place to indulge in the many forms of entertainment that were banned across the river. Among the illicit pleasures that thrived here from the late 16th century were brothels, theatres, and bear and cock pits. Borough High Street was lined with taverns – the medieval courtyards that run off it mark where they stood, and the George Inn survives as the only gallered inn in London. Shakespeare's

company was famously based at the Globe Theatre, which has been rebuilt close to its original site. Today, the south bank of the river is an attractive riverside promenade that connects several of the city's major sights: the vast, ever-changing Tate Modern, standing opposite the Millennium Bridge; London's finest food market at Borough; and the Shard, the city's tallest building, with vertigo-inducing views from its pinnacle.

Sights at a Glance

Historic Streets and Areas

- 6 Cardinal's Wharf
- 13 Bermondsey Street
- 14 City Hall

Museums and Galleries

- 4 The Old Operating Theatre
- 7 Bankside Gallery
- 8 Tate Modern
- 11 Clink Prison Museum
- 12 The Shard

Cathedrals

- 1 Southwark Cathedral

Pubs

- 3 George Inn
- 10 The Anchor

Markets

- 2 Borough Market

Historic Ships

- 15 HMS Belfast

Theatres

- 5 Shakespeare's Globe
- 9 The Rose Playhouse

Restaurants *see pp304–5*

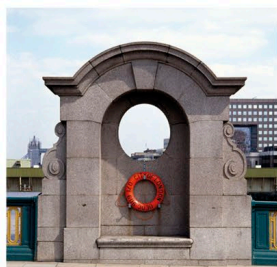
- 1 Champor-Champor
- 2 Dim T
- 3 Jos 
- 4 Roast
- 5 Tapas Brindisa
- 6 Tito's Peruvian Restaurant
- 7 Wright Brothers
- 8 Pizarro



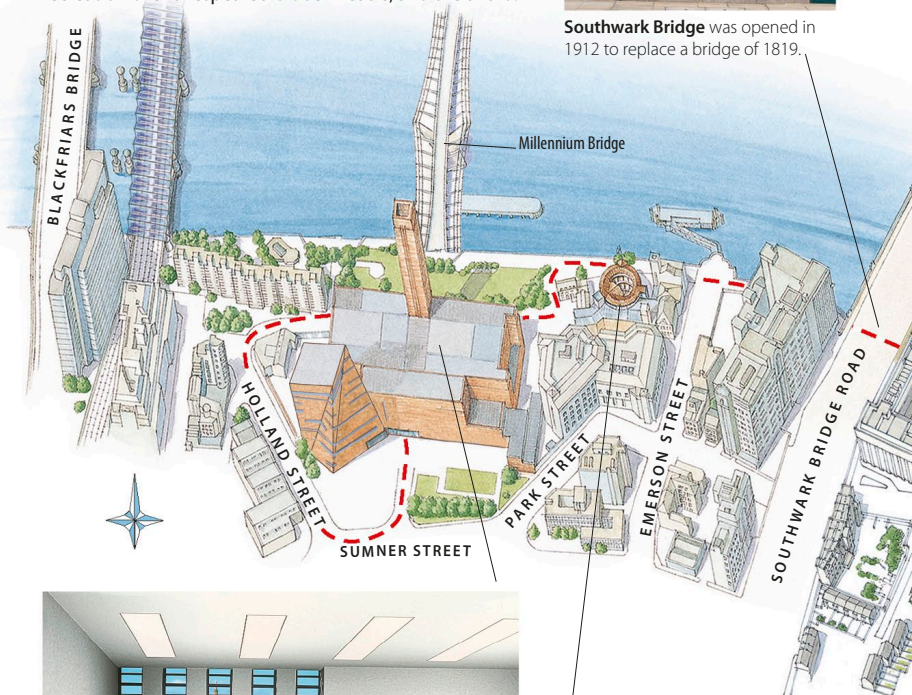
Street Finder maps 14, 15, 16

Street-by-Street: Southwark

South of the Thames, and out of the jurisdiction of the City authorities, Southwark was the place for illicit pleasures from medieval times until the 18th century. The 18th and 19th centuries brought new business, and docks, warehouses and factories were built to meet the demand. Today, a riverside walk here provides spectacular views of St Paul's and takes in Tate Modern, a regenerated Borough Market, the stunning recreation of Shakespeare's Globe Theatre, and the Shard.



Southwark Bridge was opened in 1912 to replace a bridge of 1819.



8 ★ Tate Modern

The former Bankside Power Station is now a spectacular space to show off a huge collection of contemporary art.

5 ★ Shakespeare's Globe

This brilliant recreation of an Elizabethan theatre has open-air performances in the summer months and an exhibition open all year round.



Key

— Suggested route

0 metres 100
0 yards 100

11 Clink Prison Museum

This museum, on the site of the notorious old prison, looks back at Southwark's colourful past.

10 The Anchor

For centuries this riverside pub has been a firm favourite.

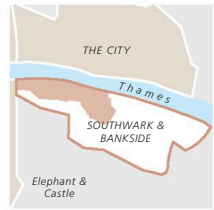
The Hop Exchange

was where hops from Kent for brewing were traded; its pediment features carved scenes of the hop harvest.

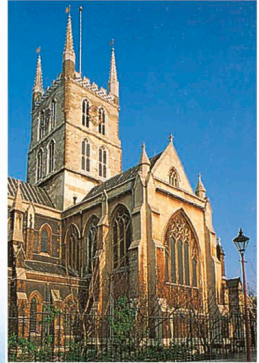


14th-century rose window

The Golden Hinde II is a replica of Sir Francis Drake's galleon built in the 1970s; it sailed the globe for several decades before docking here.

**Locator Map**

See Central London Map pp16–17

**1 ★ Southwark Cathedral**

Despite major alterations, it still contains medieval elements.

London Bridge, in its various forms, was the only river crossing in London from Roman times until 1750. The present bridge, completed in 1972, replaced the one of 1831.

2 Borough Market

There has been a market on or near this site since 1276.

SOUTHWARK STREET

BOROUGH HIGH STREET

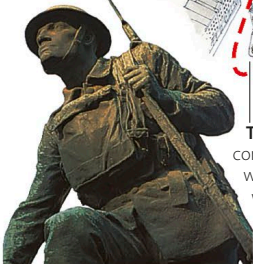
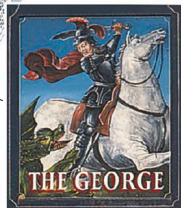
ST THOMAS STREET

The Shard

The War Memorial, commemorating soldiers who fell in World War I, was erected in 1924 on Borough High Street, where it has become a powerful landmark.

3 George Inn

This is London's only surviving traditional galleried inn.



1 Southwark Cathedral

Montague Close SE1. **Map** 15 B3.
Tel 020 7367 6700. London Bridge. **Open** 8am–6pm Mon–Fri, 8:30am–6pm Sat & Sun. daily (check website). **Concerts.** cathedral.southwark.anglican.org

This church did not become a cathedral until 1905. However, some parts of it date back to the 12th century, when the building was attached to a priory, and many of its medieval features remain. The memorials are fascinating, including a late 13th-century wooden effigy of a knight. John Harvard, the first benefactor of Harvard University, was baptized here in 1607 and there is a chapel named after him.

In 2000, the cathedral was restored in a multi-million-pound programme, which included the addition of new buildings housing a shop and a refectory. The exterior has been landscaped to create a herb garden and an attractive Millennium Courtyard that leads to the riverside.



Southwark Cathedral's Shakespeare Window

2 Borough Market

8 Southwark St SE1. **Map** 15 B4.
 London Bridge. **Open** 10am–5pm Wed–Thu, 10am–6pm Fri, 8am–5pm Sat (some stalls also 10am–5pm Mon & Tue). boroughmarket.org.uk

Borough Market was once an exclusively wholesale fruit and vegetable market, which had its origins in medieval times, and moved to its current



The George Inn, now owned by the National Trust

atmospheric position beneath the railway tracks in 1756.

An extremely popular fine food market, it is known for gourmet goods from Britain and Europe, as well as quality fruit and vegetables and organic meat, fish and dairy produce. A growing number of hot food stalls, selling a tempting array of dishes from around the world, share the space with produce stalls. It is at its busiest on Fridays and Saturdays, when stalls spread out across the whole area. Food demonstrations take place in the glass atrium on Borough High Street on Thursdays and Fridays. The specialist food shops and pubs on the streets around the market are also well worth checking out.

3 George Inn

77 Borough High St SE1. **Map** 15 B4.
Tel 020 7407 2056. London Bridge, Borough. **Open** 11am–11pm daily. **Closed** 25 & 26 Dec See Pubs and Bars pp312–15. nationaltrust.org.uk/george-inn

Dating from the 17th century, this building is the only example of a traditional galleried coaching inn left in London and is mentioned by Dickens in *Little Dorrit*. It was rebuilt after the Southwark fire of 1676 in a style that dates back to the Middle Ages. Originally, there would have been three wings around a

courtyard where plays were staged in the 17th century. In 1889, the north and east wings were demolished, so there is only one wing remaining.

The inn, now owned by the National Trust, is still a working pub. Perfect on a cold wet day, the pub, spread over a series of small rooms, has a well-worn, comfortable atmosphere. In the summer, the yard fills with picnic tables.



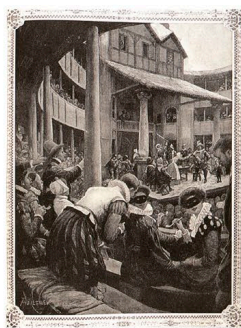
Ancient remedies, the Old Operating Theatre

4 The Old Operating Theatre

9a St Thomas St SE1. **Map** 15 B4.
Tel 020 7188 2679. London Bridge. **Open** 10:30am–5pm daily. **Closed** 15 Dec–5 Jan. very limited (the museum is upstairs). thegarret.org.uk

St Thomas' Hospital, one of the oldest in Britain, stood here from its foundation in the 12th century until it was moved west in 1862. At this time, nearly all of its buildings were demolished in order to make way for the railway. The women's operating theatre (the

Old Operating Theatre Museum and Herb Garret) survived only because it had been constructed in a garret over the hospital church. The UK's oldest operating theatre, dating from 1822, it remained, bricked up and forgotten until the 1950s. It has now been fitted out just as it would have been in the early 19th century, before the discovery of either anaesthetics or antiseptics. Another section of the garret, which was once used by the hospital apothecary to store herbs, houses a collection of traditional herbs and remedies, plus displays of antiquated medicines.



Shakespeare's *Henry IV*, performed at the Globe Theatre around 1600

5 Shakespeare's Globe

New Globe Walk SE1. **Map** 15 A3. **Tel** 020 7902 1400. Box Office: **Tel** 020 7401 9919. Southwark, London Bridge. Exhibition: **Open** 9am–5pm. includes tour. every 30 mins; 9:30am–5pm Mon, 9:30am–12:30pm Tue–Sat, 9:30–11:30am Sun. **Closed** 24 & 25 Dec. Performances late Apr–mid-Oct. www.shakespearesglobe.com

Built on the banks of the Thames, Shakespeare's Globe is a fine reconstruction of the Elizabethan theatre where many of his plays were first performed. The circular wooden structure is open in the middle, leaving some of the audience exposed to the elements. Those holding seat tickets enjoy a roof over their heads. Performances (staged only in summer) are thrilling, with top-quality acting. A second

theatre, the Sam Wanamaker Playhouse, is a splendidly atmospheric reproduction of a Jacobean indoor candle-lit theatre, with performances year-round.

The Globe has an exhibition covering the history of Elizabethan theatre in Southwark, the process of building the Globe and the exquisite costumes made for shows there. You can also listen to classic performances of Shakespeare speeches.

6 Cardinal's Wharf

SE1. **Map** 15 A3. London Bridge.

A small group of 17th-century houses still survives here in the shadow of the Tate Modern gallery (see pp182–5). A plaque commemorates Christopher Wren's stay here while St Paul's Cathedral (see pp152–5) was being built. He would have had a particularly fine view of the works. It is thought that the wharf got its name from Cardinal Wolsey, who was Bishop of Winchester in 1529.

7 Bankside Gallery

48 Hopton St SE1. **Map** 14 F3. **Tel** 020 7928 7521. Blackfriars, Southwark. **Open** 11am–6pm daily during exhibitions. **Closed** 1 Jan, 24–26 Dec. Lectures. www.banksidegallery.com

This modern riverside gallery is the headquarters of two historic



View from the Founders' Arms

British societies, namely the Royal Watercolour Society and the Royal Society of Painter-Printmakers. The members of these societies are elected by their peers in a tradition that dates back over 200 years. The gallery's permanent collection is not on show here, but there are temporary displays of contemporary watercolours and original artists' prints. The exhibitions feature the work of both societies and many of the pieces on display are for sale. There is also a superb specialist art shop that sells both books and materials.

There is an unparalleled view of St Paul's Cathedral from the nearby pub, the Founders' Arms – built on the site of the foundry where the cathedral's bells were cast.



Row of 17th-century houses on Cardinal's Wharf

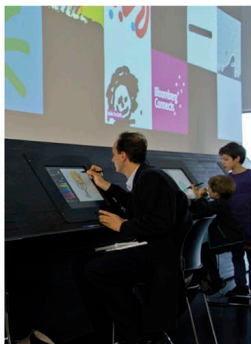
9 Tate Modern

Looming over the southern bank of the Thames, Tate Modern, housed within the converted Bankside Power Station, is a dynamic space for one of the world's premier collections of contemporary art. Up until 2000, the Tate collection was shown at three galleries: Tate St Ives, Tate Liverpool and the former Tate Gallery, now Tate Britain (see pp86–9). With the addition of Tate Modern, space was made for a growing acquisition of contemporary art. Tate Modern continually re-hangs its collection, so works and exhibitions may differ.



Switch House

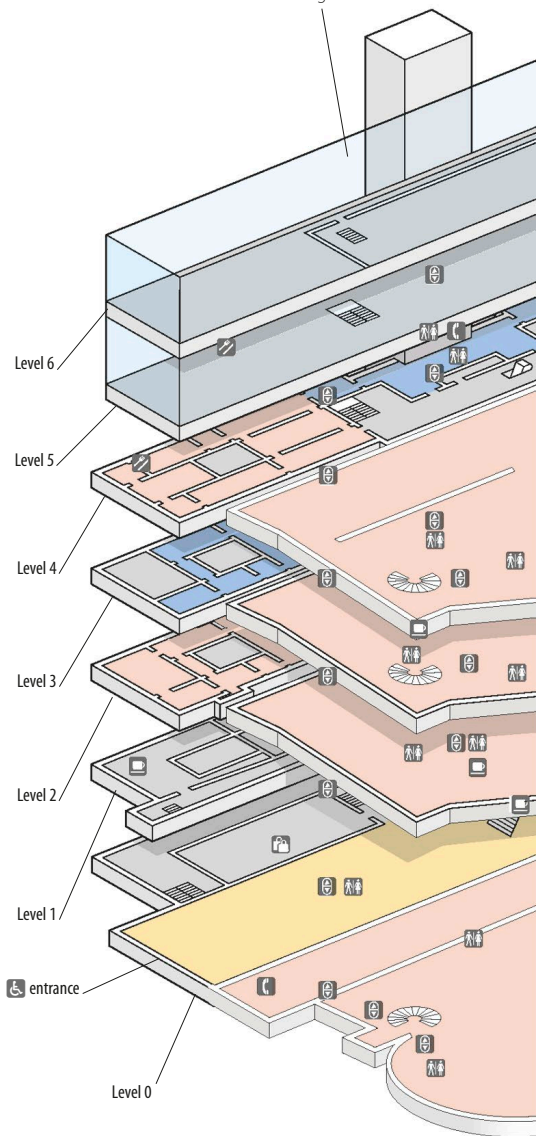
This vast extension, which opened in 2016, incorporates the power station's original tanks, increasing the gallery space by 60 per cent. Like the original, the building is designed by architects Herzog & de Meuron but presents something radically new. A perforated brick lattice work allows the interior lights to glow in the evening.



Interacting with Art

Tate Modern has won awards for its handheld multimedia guides, which present audio commentary alongside images, film clips and games. The gallery's latest digital project, Bloomberg Connects, enables members of the public to actively connect with art, artists and other visitors.

The "light beam", a two-storey glass box, allows light to filter into the upper galleries.





Façade of Tate Modern

The imposing former power station is a recognizable building along the river. It is the perfect space to house its vast collection of contemporary art.

VISITORS' CHECKLIST

Practical Information

Bankside, SE1


Map 14 F3, 15 A3.

Tel 020 7887 8888.

W tate.org.uk

Open 10am–6pm Sun–Thu,
10am–10pm Fri–Sat.


Closed 24–26 Dec.

 for special exhibitions only.





   

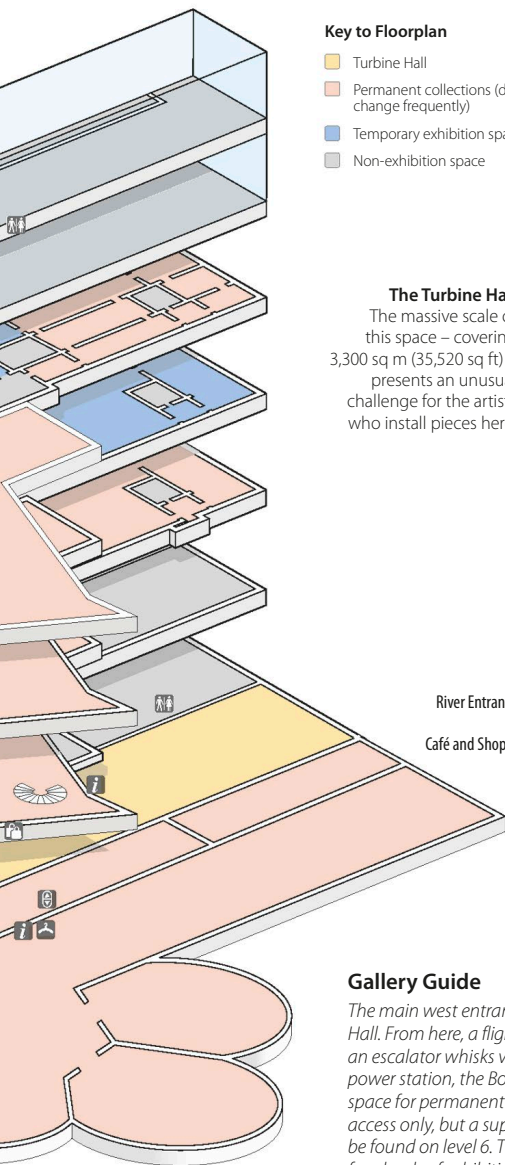
Transport

 Blackfriars, Southwark.

 45, 63, 100, 344, 381, RV1.

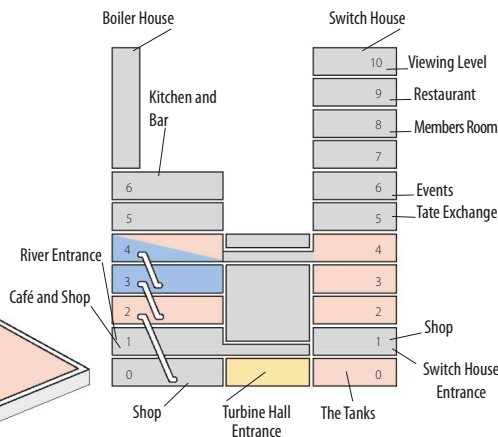
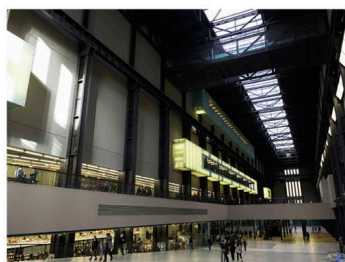
Key to Floorplan

-  Turbine Hall
-  Permanent collections (displays change frequently)
-  Temporary exhibition space
-  Non-exhibition space



The Turbine Hall

The massive scale of this space – covering 3,300 sq m (35,520 sq ft) – presents an unusual challenge for the artists who install pieces here.



Gallery Guide

The main west entrance opens into the expansive, sloped Turbine Hall. From here, a flight of stairs leads to the café and foyer of level 1, or an escalator whisks visitors straight up to gallery level 2. The original power station, the Boiler House, features three floors of exhibition space for permanent and temporary exhibitions. Level 5 is members' access only, but a superb restaurant and spectacular city views can be found on level 6. The ten-storey extension, the Switch House, offers four levels of exhibition space including live art and film, and spectacular views from the rooftop terrace.

Exploring Tate Modern

Since its inception in 2000, Tate Modern has eschewed a traditional, chronological approach in favour of hanging its collections thematically, deliberately juxtaposing pieces from different eras and continents. Two floors of the main building, plus exhibition spaces in the ten-storey extension, are used to show displays from the collection, each space exploring the development of artistic movements or recurring themes in modern and contemporary art. Other spaces show temporary exhibitions (some with an exhibition charge). The focal point of the whole building is the vast Turbine Hall, often entirely taken over by a specially commissioned installation. Works shown on these pages are examples of what might be on display.

The Permanent Collections

The collections in Tate Modern comprise over 70,000 works of modern art by some of the most significant and well-known artists of the 20th and 21st century, from Pablo Picasso to Francis Bacon. The gallery continues to acquire new work by artists from across the globe and, as a result of an ever-expanding collection, displays are regularly rotated. This means that major works are not always guaranteed to be on show – always check online before visiting if there is a particular work you wish to see. In general, the best way to explore the gallery is to take one of the regular free guided tours (usually hourly 11am–3pm, check at the information desk) or pick up an audioguide.

By and large, the collections are displayed thematically.

Located on floors 2 and 4 of the main building are four exhibition spaces comprising a series of rooms. Each space is dedicated to a particular art movement or theme, with various works exploring its origin and impact on modern art.

Making Traces, on floor 2, reviews the actions of artists and the marks they make while creating works. Mark Rothko's *Seagram murals* (1958–9) are at the heart of the exhibition. This series of canvasses had originally been commissioned by the opulent Four Seasons restaurant, located in the Seagram building in New York. The group of paintings, entitled *Red on Maroon* and *Black on Maroon*, are of open, rectangular, window-like forms and are sombre in mood. Rothko eventually decided to withhold the murals from the Four Seasons, considering the restaurant an inappropriate environment for the works.

A number of the murals were presented to the Tate shortly before Rothko's death in 1970.

On the same floor is *Citizens and States*, which looks at the way artists explore and engage with political and social ideas. Pablo Picasso's *Weeping Woman* (1937) and Kazimir Malevich's *Dynamic Suprematism* (pictured) are examples of some of the works on display; there is a room dedicated to the German artist and activist Joseph Beuys (1921–86).

Floor 4, enlarged by 60 per cent by the 2016 extension, has two wings: Material Worlds and Media Networks. Material Worlds explores the different materials and textures used by artists. The wing features Marcel Duchamp's famous *Fountain* (a 1964 replica of the 1917 original). One of the artist's so-called "readymades", *Fountain* is a urinal purchased by Duchamp and designated a work of art. Media Networks looks at how artists have responded to mass media



Section of *From the Freud Museum* (1991–6) by Susan Hiller



The impressive exterior of Tate Modern

The Transformation of Bankside Power Station

This forbidding fortress was designed in 1947 by Sir Giles Gilbert Scott, the architect of Battersea Power Station, Waterloo Bridge and London's famous red telephone boxes. The power station is of a steel-framed brick skin construction, comprising over 4.2 million bricks. The Turbine Hall was designed to accommodate huge oil-burning generators and three vast oil tanks are still *in situ*. The power station itself was converted by Swiss architects Herzog and de Meuron who designed the two-storey glass box, or lightbeam, which runs the length of the building. This serves to flood the upper galleries with light and also provides wonderful views of London.



Dynamic Suprematism (1915 or 1916) by Kazimir Malevich

and the ever-evolving world of technology, and explores themes such as gender politics and the cult of celebrity. The collection includes works by Andy Warhol and Pablo Picasso, among others.

Artist Rooms celebrates individual artists with single rooms or tours devoted to their works. One such room is dedicated to Louise Bourgeois (1911–2010). Bourgeois's career spanned some 70 years and this exhibition highlights her later work, including her final vitrine, *Untitled 2010*, and several of her small sculptures. Other artists featured by Artist Rooms include Damien Hirst and Jeff Koons.

Special Exhibitions

To complement its permanent collection, Tate Modern presents a programme of exhibitions including five large shows a year (retrospectives of modern masters or surveys of important movements). The whole of the main building's level 3 is dedicated to temporary exhibitions.

Previous exhibitions have included retrospectives dedicated to Gilbert & George, Alexander Calder and Damien Hirst. An exploration of Henri Matisse's "cut-outs", which ran for nearly five months in 2015, brought together a huge number of the artist's works for the first time, and was the Tate Modern's most successful exhibition, attracting over half a million visitors.

Smaller-scale projects are dotted around the gallery.

Works are sometimes also displayed in the restaurants and have even featured on the north-facing exterior of the gallery.

The Turbine Hall

Once a year, Tate Modern challenges an artist to create a work capable of occupying the vast five-storey Turbine Hall. This has resulted in a spectacular display of innovative sculptures and interactive works of art.

Louise Bourgeois was the first artist to exhibit here, with works that included her sculpture *Maman* (1999), a monumental steel spider. Others have included Olafur Eliasson's *The Weather Project* (2003), which lit the Turbine Hall with a giant glowing sun. In 2010, Chinese artist and activist Ai Weiwei's *Sunflower Seeds* filled the hall with 100 million hand-crafted porcelain seeds, and in 2012, Tate Modern staged its first live commission using non-actors – *These associations* created by Tino Sehgal. More performance pieces will feature in the Tanks, just off the Turbine Hall.

When there is no exhibition running, the space is occasionally used for smaller exhibitions and events, and even concerts.



Untitled (1964) by Larry Bell

Switch House

The three previously hidden tanks have been opened up as part of a vast extension. With a raw, industrial feel, they are used for performance works and installations. Rising 64.5 m (211.6 ft) above the tanks are another ten storeys, also designed by Herzog and de Meuron. The shape of the building is akin to a twisted trapezoid and the exterior is clad in a perforated brick lattice. The extension is connected to the main building at levels 0 and 4, and topped with a roof terrace.

The Switch House focuses on how art has become active from 1960 to present day, and the changing roles of artist, audience and art during this period of time. Level 0 offers a space for live art and film, including new commissions.



Ai Weiwei holds painted ceramic "seeds" from his *Sunflower Seeds* installation (2010)

9 The Rose Playhouse

56 Park St SE1. **Map** 15 A3.

Tel 020 7261 9565. London Bridge. **Open** 10am–5pm Sat, plus performances. donation requested. www.rosetheatre.org.uk

In 1989 the remains of the Rose theatre, dating from Elizabethan times, were discovered during excavations ahead of building work for a new office block. The Rose, built in 1587, was the first of the Bankside theatres, and it staged plays by Shakespeare and Christopher Marlowe. The site of the original Globe theatre was just over the road on Park Street (a plaque marks the spot).

Preserved in a specially designed space, with a modern building constructed overhead, the archaeological remains are submerged in water, with lights indicating the shape of the theatre. A small volunteer-run exhibition tells the story of the excavation, and the atmospheric space is also sometimes used as a small theatre.



Pub sign at the Anchor Inn, where a tavern has stood for over 800 years

10 The Anchor

34 Park St SE1. **Map** 15 A3. **Tel** 020 7407 1577. London Bridge.

Open 11am–11pm Mon–Wed, 11am–midnight Thu–Sat, noon–11pm Sun. [taylor-walker.co.uk](http://www.taylor-walker.co.uk)

This is one of London's most famous riverside pubs. It dates from after the Southwark fire of 1676, which devastated the area (see pp26–7). The present building is 18th-century, but traces of much earlier hostleries



The Shard, London's tallest building, soaring above Tower Bridge

have been found beneath it. The inn was once connected with a brewery across the road that belonged to Henry Thrale, a close friend of Dr Johnson (see p144). When Thrale died in 1781, Johnson went to the brewery sale and encouraged the bidders with a phrase that has passed into the English language: "The potential of growing rich beyond the dreams of avarice."

11 Clink Prison Museum

1 Clink St SE1. **Map** 15 B3. **Tel** 020 7403 0900. London Bridge. **Open** Jul–Sep: 10am–9pm daily; Oct–Jun: 10am–6pm Mon–Fri, 10am–7:30pm Sat & Sun; last adm: 30 mins before closing. **Closed** 25 Dec. for groups (phone first). [clink.co.uk](http://www.clink.co.uk)

The prison that was once located here dates back to the 12th century. It was owned by successive Bishops of Winchester, who lived in the adjoining palace, of which all that now remains is a lovely rose window on Clink Street. During the 15th century, the prison became known as the "Clink"; it closed down in 1780.

The museum alongside the palace remains illustrates the history of the prison. Tales are told of the inmates incarcerated here, including prostitutes, debtors and priests. Visitors can handle instruments of torture that leave little to the imagination – a trip here is not for the faint-hearted.

12 The Shard

London Bridge Street. **Map** 15 B4. London Bridge. The View from the Shard: Entrance via Joiner Street. **Tel** 0844 499 7111. **Open** Apr–Oct: 10am–10pm daily; Nov–Mar: 10am–10pm Thu–Sat, 10am–7pm Sun–Wed; last adm: 1 hour before closing. **Closed** 25 Dec. [theviewfromtheshard.com](http://www.theviewfromtheshard.com)

Designed by Renzo Piano, the Shard is the tallest building in Western Europe. At 310 m (1,016 ft) high with a crystalline façade, the 95-storey building houses offices, restaurants, the five-star Shangri-La hotel, exclusive apartments and the country's highest observation gallery, the View from the Shard. Take a high-speed lift to the top of the building for spectacular unobstructed views of the capital. There are two viewing floors, the higher of which is right among the "shards" with the breeze blowing overhead.

13 Bermondsey Street

SE1. **Map** 15 C5. London Bridge, Borough. Bermondsey Antiques Market: **Open** 6am–2pm Fri. Fashion and Textile Museum: 83 Bermondsey St SE1. **Tel** 020 7407 8664. **Open** 11am–6pm Tue–Sat (till 8pm Thu), 11am–5pm Sun. on request. ftmlondon.org

Bermondsey's winding streets still hold traces of its historic past in the form of medieval, 18th-century and Victorian buildings. Today, Bermondsey Street is home to galleries,



Market stalls in Bermondsey Square

coffee shops and a few excellent restaurants. The area is also famous for its antique market held in Bermondsey Square, at the bottom end of the street. Each Friday morning, seriously committed antiques dealers trade their latest acquisitions at Bermondsey Antiques Market on Bermondsey Square. Trading starts at the crack of dawn, and the best bargains tend to go before most people are even awake. The **Fashion and Textile Museum** puts on a programme of exhibitions covering all aspects of fashion design, focusing on single designers or broader themes, and runs an education programme. Further along the street, White Cube Bermondsey is a major space for international contemporary art.

14 City Hall

The Queen's Walk SE1. **Map** 16 D4.
Tel 020 7983 4000. London Bridge.
Open 8:30am–6pm Mon–Thu,
 8:30am–5:30pm Fri.
london.gov.uk/city-hall

The Norman Foster-designed domed glass building just by Tower Bridge is the headquarters for London's Mayor and the Greater London Authority. Anyone can visit the building and

walk up the walkway to the second floor to look in on the assembly chamber, or sit in on Mayor's Question Time when assembly members interrogate the mayor on London issues, which takes place ten times a year on Wednesday mornings (check website for dates). On the lower ground floor are temporary exhibitions and there's also a café. Outside, the stone amphitheatre known as the Scoop hosts free summer events, including plays, music and cinema screenings.

15 HMS Belfast

The Queen's Walk, SE1 2JH. **Map** 16 D3.
Tel 020 7940 6300. London Bridge,
 Tower Hill. **Open** Mar–Oct: 10am–
 6pm daily (last adm 5pm); Nov–Feb:
 10am–5pm (last adm 4pm). **Closed**
 24–26 Dec.
 book in advance. ivm.org.uk/visits/hms-belfast

Launched in 1938 to serve in World War II, HMS *Belfast* was instrumental in the destruction of the German battle cruiser *Scharnhorst* in the battle of North Cape, and also played a role in the Normandy Landings.

After the war, the battle cruiser, designed for offensive action and for supporting amphibious operations, was sent to work for the United Nations in Korea. The ship remained in service with the Royal Navy until 1965.

The only surviving World War II cruiser, it has been used as a floating naval museum since 1971. Part of it has been recreated to show what the ship, and life on board, was like in 1943 when it participated in sinking the German battle cruiser. Visitors can climb down narrow ladders to the engine room 15 ft (4.5 m) below sea level, and experience what it was like in the gun turrets during a battle. The flag deck gives amazing 360-degree views of London. Exhibits also explore the ship's history post-World War II, including during the Cold War.

The familiar sight of the naval gunship HMS *Belfast* on the Thames



SOUTH BANK

Following the Festival of Britain in 1951, the Southbank Centre grew up around the newly erected Royal Festival Hall. The architecture has been criticized over the years, especially the chunky concrete building that houses the Hayward Gallery, but now appears to be valued as an important part of London's river frontage. Popular with locals and tourists, the area is crowded with culture-seekers most of the time,

especially in summer and at Christmas when markets, pop-up venues and other attractions are installed. As well as the National and Old Vic theatres, the South Bank area has concert halls, galleries and the British Film Institute (BFI) Southbank. In keeping with Festival of Britain tradition, the South Bank marked the new millennium with the raising of the world's highest observation wheel, the London Eye.

Sights at a Glance

Historic Streets and Buildings

- 9 Lambeth Palace
- 12 Gabriel's Wharf
- 13 Waterloo Station

Museums and Galleries

- 2 Hayward Gallery
- 7 Florence Nightingale Museum
- 8 Museum of Garden History
- 10 Imperial War Museum

Attractions

- 4 Sea Life London Aquarium
- 5 London Dungeon
- 6 The London Eye

Theatres and Concert Halls

- 1 National Theatre
- 3 Royal Festival Hall
- 11 The Old Vic

☐ Restaurants *see pp304–5*

- 1 Anchor and Hope
- 2 The Laughing Gravy
- 3 OXO Tower Restaurant
- 4 Ping Pong



Street Finder maps 13, 14, 21, 22

Street-by-Street: Around the Southbank Centre

Originally this was an area of wharves and factories which was much damaged by bombing during World War II. It was chosen as the site of the 1951 Festival of Britain (see p34), celebrating the centenary of the Great Exhibition (see pp30–31). The Royal Festival Hall is the only building from 1951 to remain, but since then London's main arts centre has been created around it, including the national showcases for theatre, music and film, and a major art gallery.



1 ★ National Theatre

Its three auditoriums offer a choice of plays ranging from the classics to the sharpest modern writing.



3 ★ Royal Festival Hall

The London Philharmonic is one of many world-class orchestras to perform here in the focal point of the Southbank Centre.

2 ★ Hayward Gallery

The concrete exterior of this venue is well suited to many modern works.

The Queen Elizabeth Hall

stages more intimate concerts than the Festival Hall. The adjoining Purcell Room is for chamber music (see pp344–5).

BFI Southbank, previously the National Film Theatre, was established in 1953 to show historic films (see p343).

Festival Pier

To the Strand

0 metres 100
0 yards 100

Hungerford Bridge was built in 1864 to carry both trains and pedestrians to Charing Cross. It now has two footbridges, the Golden Jubilee Bridges.

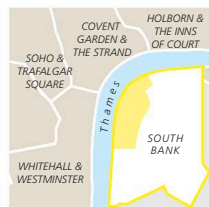
6 ★ The London Eye

The world's tallest cantilevered observation wheel offers passengers a unique view of London.





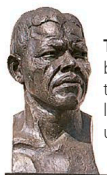
Waterloo Bridge was completed in 1945 to Sir Giles Gilbert Scott's design. It replaced John Rennie's bridge of 1817.



Locator Map

See Central London Map pp16–17

Southbank Food Market takes place in the square behind the Festival Hall at weekends.



The Struggle is My Life is a bronze of Nelson Mandela, the previous South African leader, by Ian Walters. It was unveiled here in 1985.



The Shell Building, headquarters of the international oil company, was completed in 1963. The building is at the centre of a huge redevelopment project.

London Eye

Jubilee Gardens

were laid out in 1977 to celebrate the Silver Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II, and redesigned in 2012 in time for her Diamond Jubilee and the Olympic Games.

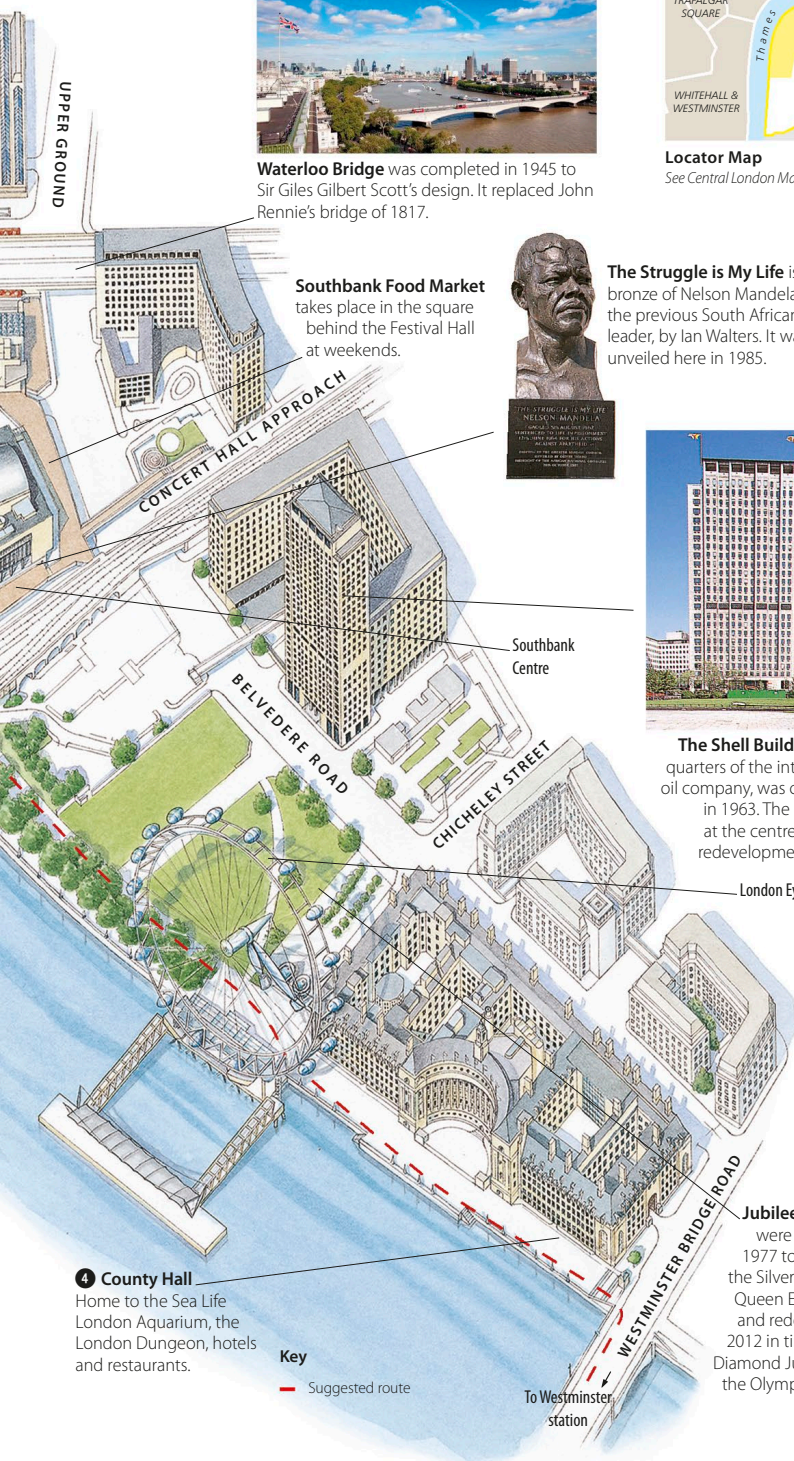
4 County Hall

Home to the Sea Life London Aquarium, the London Dungeon, hotels and restaurants.

Key

— Suggested route

To Westminster station





The Royal Festival Hall and the London Eye

1 National Theatre

South Bank SE1. **Map** 14 D3. **Tel** 020 7452 3000. **Open** 9:30am–11pm Mon–Sat (Sherling Walkway closes at 7:30pm), noon–6pm Sun **Closed** Good Fri, 24 & 25 Dec (limited opening bank hols – check website). during performances. Mon–Sat (book in advance). See *Entertainment* p340. nationaltheatre.org.uk

Even if you don't want to see a play, this complex is worth a visit, especially for a backstage tour. You can also get a glimpse of the backstage area from the Sherling High-Level Walkway (entrance near the Dorfman theatre), which runs above the prop-building areas.

Sir Denys Lasdun's building opened in 1976 after 200 years of debate: should there be a national theatre and, if so, where? The theatre company was formed in 1963, under Laurence (later Lord) Olivier. The largest of the three theatres is named after him; the others are the Dorfman and the Lyttleton.

2 Hayward Gallery

South Bank SE1. **Map** 14 D3. **Tel** 020 7960 4200. **Closed** temporarily for renovation. southbankcentre.co.uk

Though currently closed for repairs to its distinctive pyramidal glass roof panels, the Hayward Gallery, when open, is one of London's main venues for large art exhibitions. Its slabby grey

concrete exterior is too starkly modern for some tastes, but for others it is an icon of 1960s Brutalist architecture. Hayward exhibitions cover classical and contemporary art, but the work of British contemporary artists is particularly well represented.

3 Royal Festival Hall

South Bank SE1. **Map** 14 D4. **Tel** 0844 875 0073. **Open** 10am–11pm daily. Poetry library: 11am–8pm Tue–Sun. **Closed** 25 Dec. during performances. Pre-concert talks, exhibitions, free concerts. See *Entertainment* p344. southbankcentre.co.uk

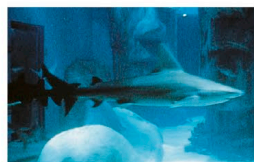
This was the only structure for the 1951 Festival of Britain (see p34) designed for permanence. Sir Robert Matthew and Sir Leslie Martin's concert hall was the first major public building works undertaken in London following World War II. It has stood the test of time so well that many of the capital's major arts institutions have gathered round it, and the Grade I-listed building is today one of the world's leading performance venues. As well as the main auditorium, there is the Clore Ballroom; the main foyer area, which hosts a wide range of free concerts; the poetry library on Level 5; and also a gift shop, café, bar and the Skylon restaurant. In summer, temporary venues and bars are also installed on the riverside terrace.

4 Sea Life London Aquarium

County Hall, Westminster Bridge Rd SE1. **Map** 13 C4. **Aquarium Tel** 0871 663 1678. **Open** 10am–7pm Mon–Fri, 9am–7pm Sat & Sun (last adm: 6pm). **Closed** 25 Dec. visitsealife.com/london

Once the home of London's elected government, County Hall now houses the Sea Life London Aquarium and London Dungeon (see below), alongside a hotel, restaurants, and other themed attractions.

The Aquarium is home to myriad aquatic species from all over the world, including stingrays, turtles, jellyfish, starfish (which you can stroke) and penguins. There's a 25-m (82-ft) glass tunnel walkway through a tropical ocean environment, and a large tank housing numerous shark species, which you can view from several levels.



Shark in a tank at the Sea Life London Aquarium

5 London Dungeon

County Hall, Westminster Bridge Rd SE1. **Map** 13 C4. **Tel** 0871 423 2240. **Open** 10am–5pm Mon–Fri (from 11am Thu), 10am–6pm Sat & Sun. Extended hours in school holidays. **Closed** 25 Dec. thedungeons.com

This scary attraction is a great hit with older children. It illustrates the most bloodthirsty events in British history with live actors and special effects. It is played strictly for terror, and screams abound during the 90-minute tour through gory scenes, recounting tales of such characters as Guy Fawkes and Jack the Ripper. Don't miss the Tyrant Boat Ride along a black River Thames to find out what happened to Anne Boleyn and her co-conspirators.

6 The London Eye

The London Eye is a 135-m (443-ft) high observation wheel. Opened in 2000 as part of London's millennium celebrations, it immediately became one of the city's most recognizable landmarks, notable not only for its size, but for its circularity amid the block-shaped buildings flanking it. Thirty-two capsules, each holding up to 25 people, take a gentle 30-minute round trip. On a clear day, the Eye affords a 40-km (25-mile) view, which sweeps over the capital in all directions and on to the countryside beyond.



Houses of Parliament

Seventeen minutes into the flight, the spectacular aerial view of Westminster is a highlight.



Battersea Power Station

After 15 minutes, the distinctive white smokestacks of this old power station (now being redeveloped) are visible.

The wheel rim was floated down the Thames in sections and then assembled on site.

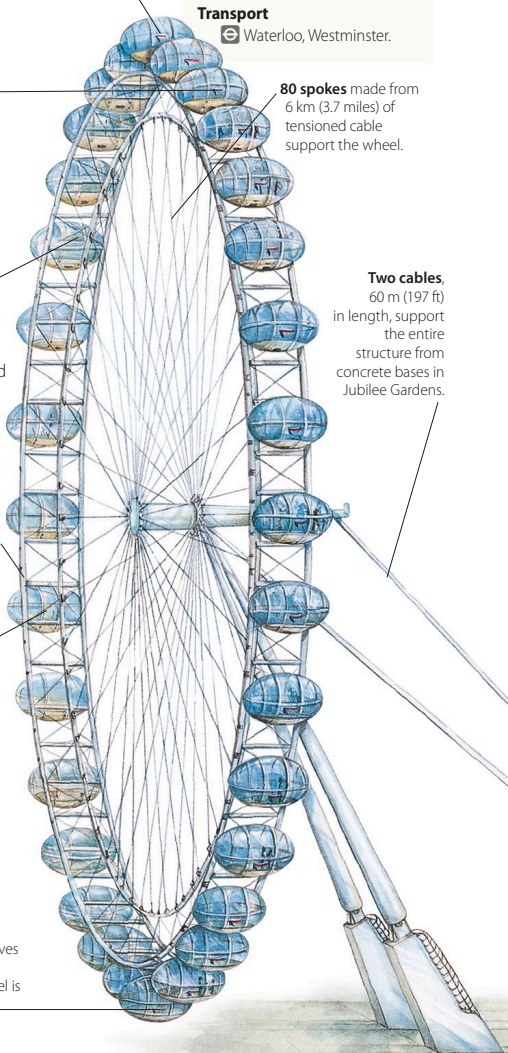


Buckingham Palace

Ten minutes into the journey, the Queen's official residence glides into view.

The Eye turns continuously and moves slowly enough that the capsules are boarded here while moving. The wheel is halted for those requiring assistance.

The glass capsules are mounted on the outside of the rim, allowing unobstructed 360-degree views.



80 spokes made from 6 km (3.7 miles) of tensioned cable support the wheel.

Two cables, 60 m (197 ft) in length, support the entire structure from concrete bases in Jubilee Gardens.

VISITORS' CHECKLIST

Practical Information

Jubilee Gardens SE1.

Map 14 D4. **Tel** 0871 781 3000

(info and 24-hour advance booking – strongly recommended).

w londoneye.com

Open daily Apr–Jun: 10am–9pm; Jul & Aug: 10am–9:30pm, Sep–Mar: 10am–8:30pm (times can vary, check website).

Closed 25 Dec and mid-Jan for maintenance. Print pre-booked tickets or pick them up at

County Hall (adjacent to the Eye) at least 30 mins before boarding time. Fast-track tickets are also available.

Transport

Waterloo, Westminster.

7 Florence Nightingale Museum

2 Lambeth Palace Rd SE1. **Map** 14 D5. **Tel** 020 7620 0374. Waterloo, Westminster. **Open** 10am–5pm daily (last adm 4:30pm). **Closed** 25 Dec (and other dates; call to check). Videos, lectures. www.florence-nightingale.co.uk

This determined woman captured the nation's imagination as the "Lady of the Lamp", who nursed the wounded soldiers of the Crimean War (1853–6). She founded Britain's first school of nursing at old St Thomas' Hospital in 1860, and generally revolutionised modern nursing.

Sited near the entrance to St Thomas' Hospital, this museum gives an account of Nightingale's career through displays of original documents and personal memorabilia. They illustrate her life and the developments she pioneered in health care, until her death in 1910 at the age of 90.



Florence Nightingale

8 Museum of Garden History

Lambeth Palace Rd SE1. **Map** 21 C1. **Tel** 020 7401 8865. Waterloo, Lambeth North, Westminster. **Closed** for renovation until 2017; check the website for updates. www.gardenmuseum.org.uk

Currently closed for renovation, the world's first museum of garden history is housed in the restored church of St Mary of Lambeth Palace, where it is set around a central knot garden. In the grounds are the tombs of John Tradescant father and son, who, as well as being gardeners to Charles I and Charles II, were adventurous plant hunters and collectors of curiosities. The tomb of William Bligh of *The Bounty* can also be seen here.

The museum presents a history of gardening in Britain, including objects collected by the Tradescants, and an archive

of garden design. It also runs a programme of exhibitions, events and lectures and has an excellent café.

9 Lambeth Palace

SE1. **Map** 21 C1. **Tel** 0844 248 5134. Lambeth North, Westminster, Waterloo, Vauxhall. **Open** for guided tours only. Thu & Fri (booking essential). www.archbishopofcanterbury.org

This palace has housed Archbishops of Canterbury since the 13th century and today remains the Archbishop's official London residence. The chapel and its undercroft contain elements from the

13th century, but a large part of the rest of the building is far more recent. It has been frequently restored, most recently by Edward Blore in 1828. The Tudor gatehouse, however, dates from 1485 and is one of London's most familiar riverside landmarks. The garden, planted with many mature

trees, is occasionally open in summer, while you can visit the palace year-round by guided tour.

Until the first Westminster Bridge was built, the horse ferry that operated between here and Millbank was a principal river crossing. The revenues from it went to the Archbishop, who received compensation when the bridge opened in 1750.



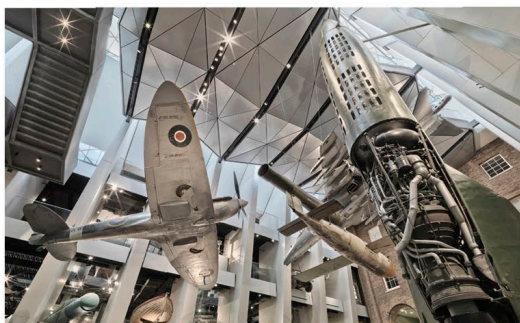
The Tudor gatehouse of Lambeth Palace, a familiar landmark along the Thames

10 Imperial War Museum

Lambeth Rd SE1. **Map** 22 E1. **Tel** 020 7416 5000. Waterloo, Lambeth North, Elephant & Castle. **Open** 10am–6pm daily. **Closed** 24–26 Dec, 1 Jan. For tours and some special exhibitions. booking required. Films, lectures. www.iwm.org.uk

This museum is not just concerned with the engines of modern warfare. Massive tanks, artillery, bombs and aircraft are on show in the main atrium, yet some of the most fascinating exhibits in the museum relate more to the impact on the lives of people at home than to the business of fighting; one display focuses on a London family's experience of World War II, including food rationing, air raids, and the service of family members at home and abroad.

The First World War Galleries and Levels 1 and 2 feature many large objects, including the Little Boy atomic bomb, Field Marshal Montgomery's staff car used in North Africa and Sicily



Military aircraft at the Imperial War Museum

and sections of the Berlin Wall. On display in the atrium are the V-1 and V-2 rockets, a Mark 1 Spitfire, a Harrier jet, a T-34 tank and the Baghdad car, destroyed in a suicide car bombing that took place in the Mutanabbi Street book market in Baghdad in 2007.

The museum also has a contemporary art programme of changing exhibitions throughout the year, featuring contemporary artists' response to the subject of war.

Housed in part of what used to be the Bethlehem Royal Hospital for the Insane (more commonly known as "Bedlam"), built in 1811, it was not uncommon for the general public to visit and watch its patients. The hospital moved out to new premises in Surrey in 1930, leaving this vast building empty. Its two large flanking wings were pulled down and this central block converted into the museum, which moved here from its former South Kensington site in 1936.



The Old Vic theatre, rescued from the threat of closure in the 1990s

11 The Old Vic

Waterloo Rd SE1. **Map** 14 E4. **Tel** 0844 871 7628. **Waterloo. Open** for performances and tours. Sat, book online or call 020 7928 2651.

contact the theatre in advance.

See *Entertainment* pp340–42.

oldvictheatre.com

This splendid building dates back to 1818, when it was opened as the Royal Coburg Theatre. In 1833, the name was changed to the Royal Victoria, in honour of the future queen. Shortly after this the theatre became a centre



The memorial to the dead of World War I at Waterloo Station

for music hall, the immensely popular Victorian entertainment, which included singers and comedians. In 1912, Lillian Baylis became manager and from 1914 to 1923 she staged all of Shakespeare's plays here. The National Theatre (see p192) was founded in the 1960s and based at this site.

In 1997, a charitable trust, formed to secure the theatre's future. The Trust set up The Old Vic Theatre Company as resident company in 2003, with Kevin Spacey as its first artistic director. There are cheap seats for younger people and pantomimes at Christmas.

12 Gabriel's Wharf

56 Upper Ground SE1. **Map** 14 E3.

Waterloo. See Shops and Markets pp316–37.

This pleasant enclave of boutiques, craft shops and cafés was the product of a long and stormy debate over the future of what was once an industrial riverside area. Residents of Waterloo strongly opposed various schemes for office developments before a community association was able to acquire the site in 1984 and build cooperative housing.

Adjoining the market is a small garden and a riverside walkway with fine views of the City. The Oxo Tower to the east, built in 1928 to surreptitiously advertise a meat extract by means of its window shapes, now houses galleries and design shops on the lower floors and a restaurant and bar on the top floor.

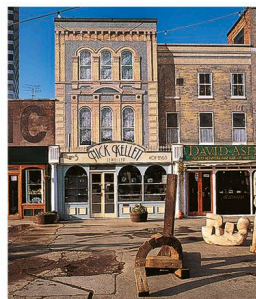
13 Waterloo Station

York Rd SE1. **Map** 14 D4. **Tel** 08457 484950. **Waterloo. See Getting to London** p368.

The terminus for trains to southwest England, Waterloo station was originally built in 1848 but completely remodelled in the early 20th century, with the addition of a grand formal entrance at the northeast corner. Today the spacious concourse, including a mezzanine floor, is lined with clothing and gift shops, cafés and bars.

Towards the end of the 20th century the station was enlarged again to serve as London's first Channel Tunnel rail link to Europe. In autumn 2007, the Eurostar terminal moved from Waterloo Station to its present home at St Pancras International (see p133).

The area surrounding Waterloo, particularly Lower Marsh, is worth exploring: there are some great shops, pubs and restaurants to enjoy.



Warehouses painted with a tromp l'œil effect at Gabriel's Wharf



CHELSEA

Formerly a riverside village, Chelsea became fashionable in Tudor times. Henry VIII liked it so much that he built a small palace (long vanished) here. Artists, including Turner, Whistler and Rossetti, were attracted by the river views from Cheyne Walk. The historian Thomas Carlyle and the essayist Leigh Hunt arrived in the 1830s and began a literary tradition continued by writers such as the poet Swinburne. Yet Chelsea has always had a raffish element, too: in the 18th century the pleasure

gardens were noted for beautiful courtesans and the Chelsea Arts Club has held riotous balls for nearly a century. The Chelsea of today is home to expensive boutique shops, upmarket restaurants and exclusive residential areas. The showy young shoppers who paraded along the King's Road from the 1960s until the 1980s have more or less gone, along with Chelsea's reputation for extreme behaviour, established by the bohemian Chelsea Set of writers and artists in the 19th century.

Sights at a Glance

Historic Streets and Buildings

- 1 King's Road
- 2 Carlyle's House
- 5 Cheyne Walk
- 8 Royal Hospital Chelsea
- 10 Sloane Square

Museums and Galleries

- 7 National Army Museum
- 9 Saatchi Gallery

Churches

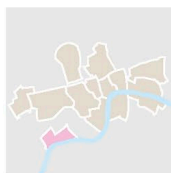
- 3 Chelsea Old Church

Gardens

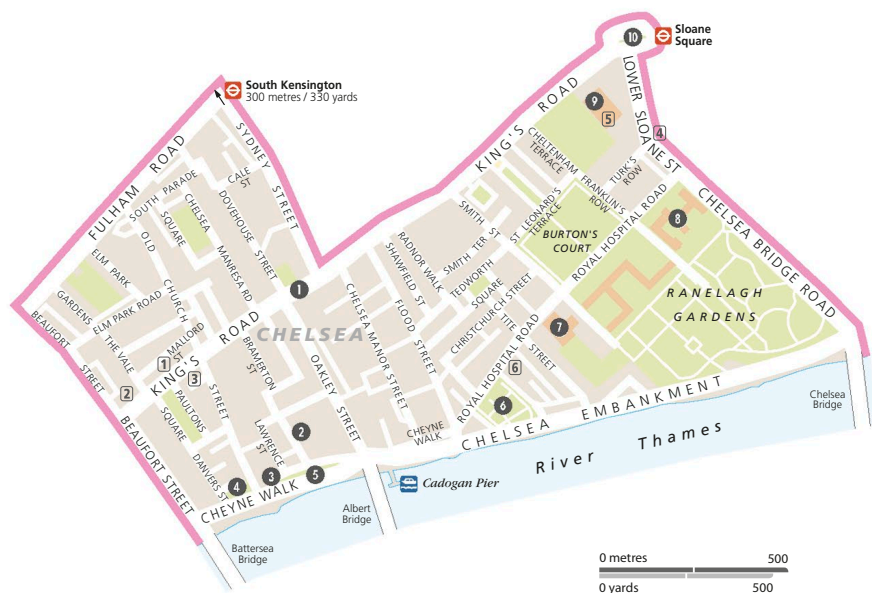
- 4 Roper's Garden
- 6 Chelsea Physic Garden

Restaurants *see pp299–301*

- 1 Big Easy
- 2 Bluebird
- 3 Buona Sera Jam
- 4 Caraffini
- 5 Gallery Mess
- 6 Restaurant Gordon Ramsay



Street Finder maps 19, 20



Street-by-Street: Chelsea

Chelsea has been fashionable since Tudor times, when Sir Thomas More, Henry VIII's Lord Chancellor, lived here. Artists and writers were attracted to its scenery before a busy main road disturbed its peace. Chelsea's artistic connection was maintained by upscale galleries and antique shops, many of which have closed due to a rise in rents. Enclaves of 18th-century houses preserve a genteel atmosphere.



The Old Dairy, at 46 Old Church Street, was built in 1796, when cows still grazed in the surrounding fields. The tiling is original.

3 Chelsea Old Church

Although severely damaged during World War II, it still holds some fine Tudor monuments.



2 Carlyle's House

The historian and philosopher lived here from 1834 until his death in 1882.



1 King's Road

In the 1960s and 1970s this was the boutique-lined centre of fashionable London, and is still a main shopping street.



4 Roper's Garden

This features a sculpture by Jacob Epstein who had a studio here.

Thomas More, sculpted in 1969 by L Cubitt Bevis, gazes calmly across the river, near where he lived.

Key

— Suggested route

0 metres 100
0 yards 100

To Sloane
Square station



Chelsea Old Town Hall was built in the late 19th century and now hosts exhibitions and antique fairs.

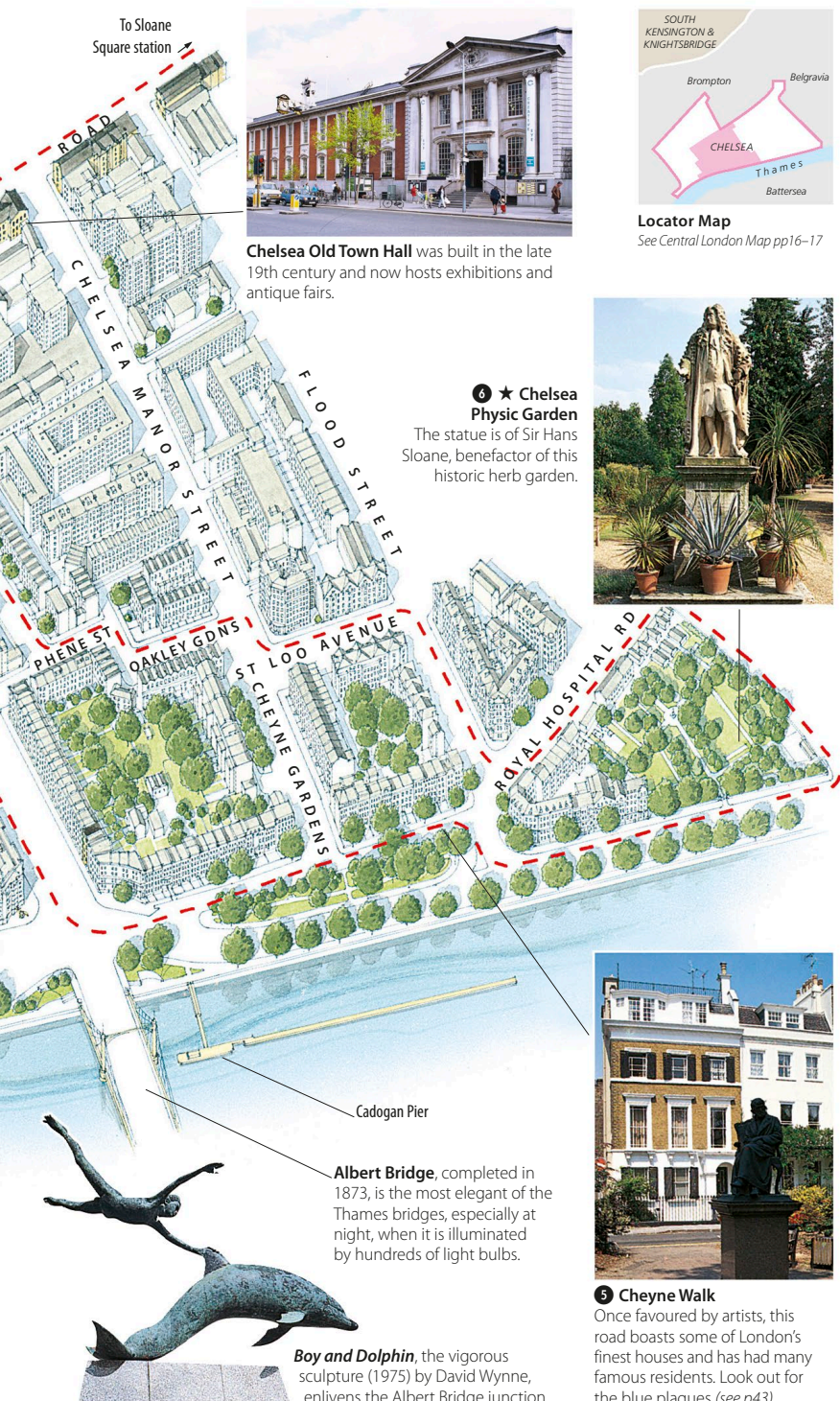


Locator Map

See Central London Map pp16–17

6 ★ Chelsea Physic Garden

The statue is of Sir Hans Sloane, benefactor of this historic herb garden.



Cadogan Pier

Albert Bridge, completed in 1873, is the most elegant of the Thames bridges, especially at night, when it is illuminated by hundreds of light bulbs.

Boy and Dolphin, the vigorous sculpture (1975) by David Wynne, enlivens the Albert Bridge junction.



5 Cheyne Walk

Once favoured by artists, this road boasts some of London's finest houses and has had many famous residents. Look out for the blue plaques (see p43).



The Pheasantry, King's Road

1 King's Road

SW3 and SW10. **Map** 19 B3.

📍 Sloane Square. *See Shops and Markets pp316–17.*

This is Chelsea's central artery, with a wealth of upmarket high street shops and smaller boutiques. The miniskirt revolution of the 1960s – the birth of so-called “Swinging London” – began here and so have many subsequent style trends, perhaps the most famous of them being punk.

Look out for the Pheasantry at No. 152, with its columns and statuary. It was built in 1881 as the shopfront of a furniture-maker's premises but now conceals a modern restaurant.

Once also a vibrant area for antiques, most of the Kings Road's merchants have packed up shop. Nearby Kensington Church Street is where to go to find high-quality art and antiques today.

2 Carlyle's House

24 Cheyne Row SW3. **Map** 19 B4.

Tel 020 7352 7087. 📍 Sloane Square, South Kensington. **Open** Mar–Oct: 11am–4:30pm Wed–Sun. 📧 nationaltrust.org.uk/carlyleshouse

The historian and founder of the London Library (see *St James's Square* p95), Thomas Carlyle moved into this modest 18th-century house in 1834, and wrote many of his best-known books here, notably *The French Revolution* and

Frederick the Great. His presence at this address made Chelsea more fashionable and the house became a mecca for some great literary figures. The novelists Charles Dickens and William Thackeray, poet Alfred Lord Tennyson and naturalist Charles Darwin were all regular visitors here. The house has been restored and looks as it would have done during Carlyle's lifetime.



Chelsea Old Church in 1860

3 Chelsea Old Church

64 Cheyne Walk SW3. **Map** 19 A4.

Tel 020 7795 1019. 📍 Sloane Square, South Kensington. **Open** 2–4pm Tue–Thu. 📞 📧 8am Thu, 8am, 10am, 11am, 12:15pm, 6pm Sun.

🌐 chelseaoldchurch.org.uk

Rebuilt after World War II, this square-towered building does not look old from the outside. However, early prints confirm that it is a careful replica of the medieval church that was largely destroyed by World War II bombs.

The glory of this church is its Tudor monuments. One to Sir Thomas More, who built a chapel here in 1528, contains an inscription he wrote (in Latin), asking to be buried next to his wife. Among other monuments is a chapel to Sir Thomas Lawrence, an Elizabethan merchant, and a 17th-century memorial to Lady Jane Cheyne, after whose husband Cheyne Walk was named. Outside the church is a statue in memory of Sir Thomas More, “statesman, scholar, saint”, gazing piously across the river.

4 Roper's Garden

Cheyne Walk SW3. **Map** 19 A4.

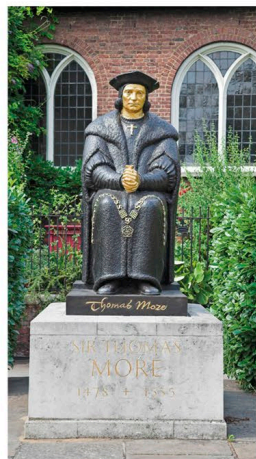
📍 Sloane Square, South Kensington.

This is a small park outside Chelsea Old Church. It is named after Margaret Roper, Thomas More's daughter, and her husband William, who wrote More's biography. The sculptor Jacob Epstein worked at a studio on the site between 1909 and 1914, and there is a stone carving by him commemorating the fact. The park also contains a figure of a nude woman by Gilbert Carter.

5 Cheyne Walk

SW3. **Map** 19 B4. 📍 Sloane Square, South Kensington.

Until Chelsea Embankment was constructed in 1874, Cheyne Walk was a pleasant riverside promenade. Now it overlooks a busy road that has destroyed much of its charm. Many of the 18th-century houses remain, though, bristling with blue plaques celebrating some of the famous people who have lived in them. Most were writers and artists, including J M W Turner, who lived incognito at No. 119; George Eliot, who died at No. 4; and a clutch of writers (Henry James, T S Eliot and Ian Fleming) in Carlyle Mansions.



Statue of Thomas More on Cheyne Walk

6 Chelsea Physic Garden

66 Royal Hospital Rd SW3.

Map 19 C4. **Tel** 020 7352 5646.

📍 Sloane Square. **Open** Apr–Oct: 11am–6pm Tue–Fri & Sun; Nov–Mar: 9:30am–4pm Mon–Fri. Café and shop closed winter, occasional late openings summer. 📞 call in advance.

📺 Gardening school.

W chelseaphysicgarden.co.uk

Established by the Society of Apothecaries in 1673 to study plants for medicinal use, this garden was saved from closure in 1722 by a gift from Sir Hans Sloane, whose statue adorns it. New varieties have been nurtured in its glasshouses, including cotton sent to the plantations of the southern United States. Visitors to London's oldest botanic garden can see ancient trees and one of Britain's first rock gardens, installed in 1772.

7 National Army Museum

Royal Hospital Rd SW3.

Map 19 C4. **Tel** 020 7730 0717.

📍 Sloane Square. **Open** Closed for refurbishment; due to reopen 2017, check website for updates. 📞 📺 📱

W nam.ac.uk

Adjoining the Royal Hospital Chelsea is the official museum of the British Army, with a collection that spans its 600-year history, including many uniforms, paintings and portraits. It has been undergoing a renovation and opens again to the public in 2017.



A Chelsea Pensioner in uniform

from Christopher Wren in 1682 as a retirement home for old or wounded soldiers, who have been known as Chelsea Pensioners ever since. The hospital opened ten years later and is still home to about 330 retired soldiers, whose distinctive uniforms of scarlet coats and tricorn hats date from the 17th century. Flanking the northern entrance are Wren's two main public rooms: the chapel, notable for its wonderful simplicity, and the panelled Great Hall, still used as the dining room. A small museum covers

the history of the Pensioners.

A statue of Charles II by Grinling

Gibbons is to be found on the terrace outside, from where there is a fine view of Battersea Power Station across the river.

9 Saatchi Gallery

Duke of York's HQ, King's Road SW3.

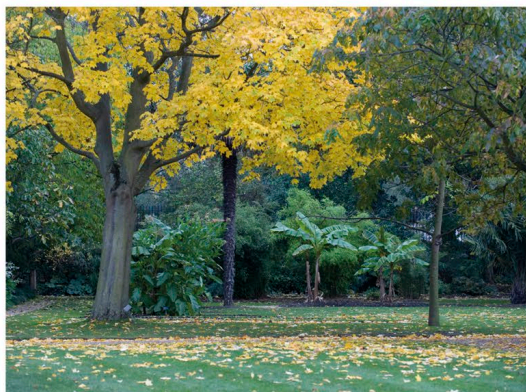
Map 19 C2. **📍** Sloane Square.

Open 10am–6pm daily during exhibitions (last adm: 4:30pm).

Closed for private events. 📞 call in advance 020 7811 3085. 📺 📱

W saatchigallery.com

Set up by advertising mogul Charles Saatchi in order to showcase his impressive contemporary art acquisitions, the Saatchi Gallery has moved location several times in



Falling leaves in Chelsea Physic Garden

London. Now, however, it is firmly established in Chelsea at the Duke of York's headquarters building, which dates from 1801. Saatchi is perhaps best known for his epousal, in the 1980s and 1990s, of the Young British Artists movement led by Damien Hirst. Today the range of temporary exhibitions of contemporary art is wide-ranging and international in scope, covering everything from new Chinese artists to fashion illustration and Pop Art.



Sloane Square fountain

10 Sloane Square

SW1. **Map** 20 D2. **📍** Sloane Square.

This pleasant small square (rectangle to be precise) has a paved centre with a flower stall and a fountain depicting Venus. Laid out in the late 18th century, it was named after Sir Hans Sloane, the wealthy physician and collector who bought the manor of Chelsea in 1712. Opposite Peter Jones, the 1936 department store on the square's west side, is the Royal Court Theatre, which for over a century has fostered new drama.

8 Royal Hospital Chelsea

Royal Hospital Rd SW3. **Map** 20 D3.

Tel 020 7881 5516. **📍** Sloane Square.

Open Museum, Chapel and Great Hall: 10am–4pm (no access to Hall noon–2pm) Mon–Fri. **Closed** 23 Dec–6 Jan, public hols, functions (call to check). 📞 10am & 1:30pm Mon–Fri, book in advance. 📺

W chelsea-pensioners.co.uk

This graceful complex was commissioned by Charles II



SOUTH KENSINGTON AND KNIGHTSBRIDGE

Packed with embassies and upmarket emporia, these are among London's most desirable and expensive areas. For visitors, however, it is the three great museums – the Natural History Museum, the Science Museum and the Victoria and Albert – founded

as Victorian temples to learning that are the major draw. With Kensington Palace and the Albert Memorial, there are some royal connections here too, while Hyde Park and Kensington Gardens are among the city's prime green spaces.

Sights at a Glance

Historic Streets and Buildings

- 5 Royal College of Music
- 7 Royal College of Art
- 10 Kensington Palace
- 13 Speakers' Corner

Churches

- 4 Brompton Oratory

Museums and Galleries

- 1 Natural History Museum pp206–7
- 2 Science Museum pp210–11
- 3 Victoria and Albert Museum pp214–17
- 9 Serpentine Gallery

Parks and Gardens

- 11 Kensington Gardens
- 12 Hyde Park

Monuments

- 8 Albert Memorial
- 14 Marble Arch

Concert Halls

- 6 Royal Albert Hall

Shops

- 15 Harrods

Restaurants *see pp299–301*

- 1 Bar Boulud
- 2 Dinner
- 3 One-0-One
- 4 Zuma



Street Finder maps 10, 11, 19



Street-by-Street: South Kensington

A clutch of museums and colleges provides this area with its dignified character. The Great Exhibition of 1851 in Hyde Park was so successful that in the following years smaller exhibitions were held here, just to its south. By the end of the 19th century some of these had become permanent museums, housed in grandiose buildings celebrating Victorian self-confidence.



- 6 ★ Royal Albert Hall**
Opened in 1870, the hall was partly funded by selling seats on a 999-year lease.

- 5 Royal College of Music**
Historic musical instruments are exhibited here.



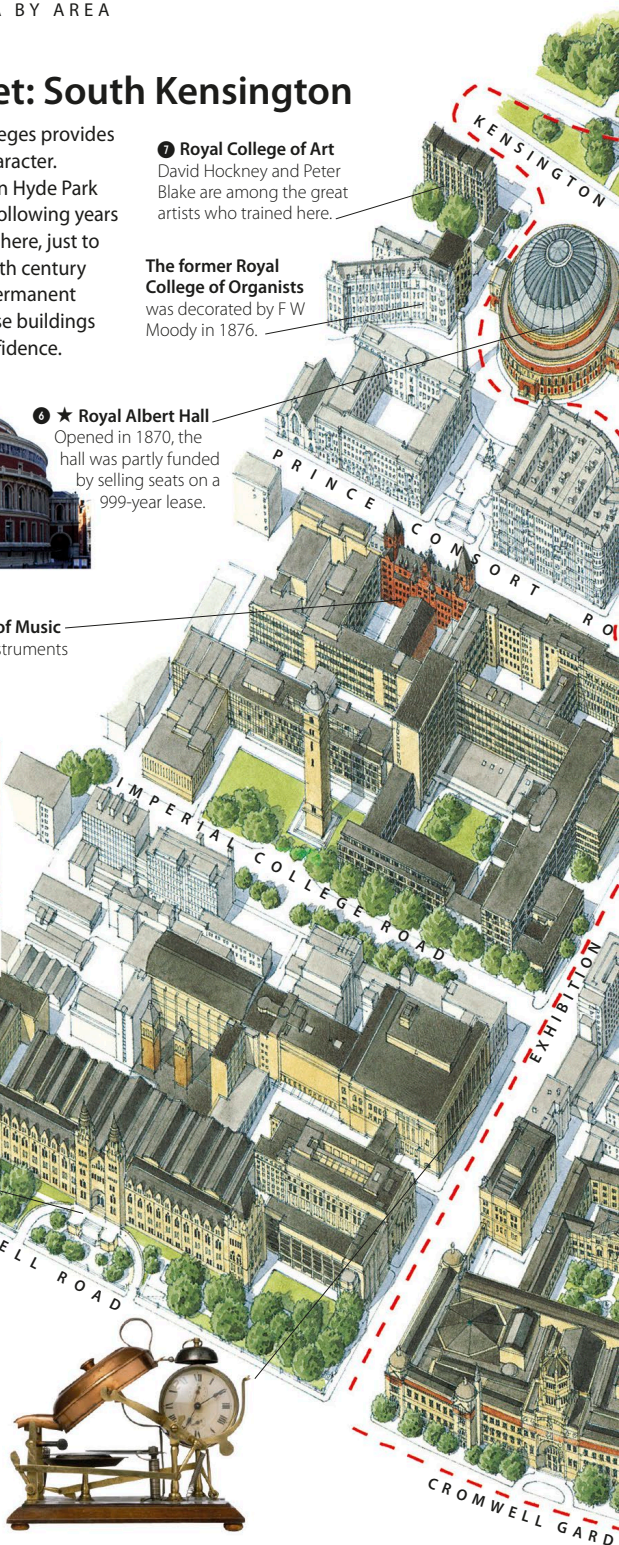
- 1 ★ Natural History Museum**
The dinosaur exhibits are one of the museum's most popular attractions.

Key

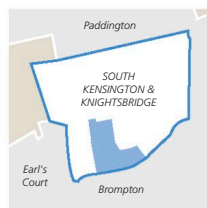
— Suggested route

0 metres 100
0 yards 100

- 2 ★ Science Museum**
Visitors here can experiment with the interactive displays.



The Albert Hall Mansions, built by Norman Shaw in 1879, started a fashion for red brick.



Locator Map

See Central London Map pp16–17

8 Albert Memorial

This memorial was built to commemorate Queen Victoria's consort.

The Royal Geographical Society was founded in 1830. Scottish missionary and explorer David Livingstone (1813–73) was a member.



Imperial College, part of London University, is one of the country's leading scientific institutions.



9 ★ Victoria and Albert Museum

A range of objects from around the globe illustrate a rich history of design and decoration.

Holy Trinity church dates from the 19th century and is located among cottages in a calm backwater.



4 Brompton Oratory

The Oratory was built during the 19th-century Catholic revival.

Brompton Square, begun in 1821, established this as a fashionable residential area.

To Knightsbridge station

● Natural History Museum

Life on Earth and the Earth itself are vividly explained at the Natural History Museum. Using the latest interactive techniques alongside traditional displays, exhibits tackle such issues as how human beings evolved and how we can safeguard our planet. The vast museum building is a masterpiece in itself. It opened in 1881 and was designed by Alfred Waterhouse using revolutionary Victorian building techniques. It is built on an iron and steel framework concealed behind arches and columns, richly decorated with sculptures of plants and animals.

The Darwin Centre features a futuristic cocoon in a glass atrium. It is home to 20 million insect and plant specimens and a research centre.



★ Dinosaurs

T Rex, one of the museum's impressively lifelike animatronic models, lurches and roars in this hugely popular gallery. More traditional exhibits of fossilized skeletons and eggs are also on display.

Gallery Guide

The museum is divided into four zones: Blue, Green, Red and Orange.

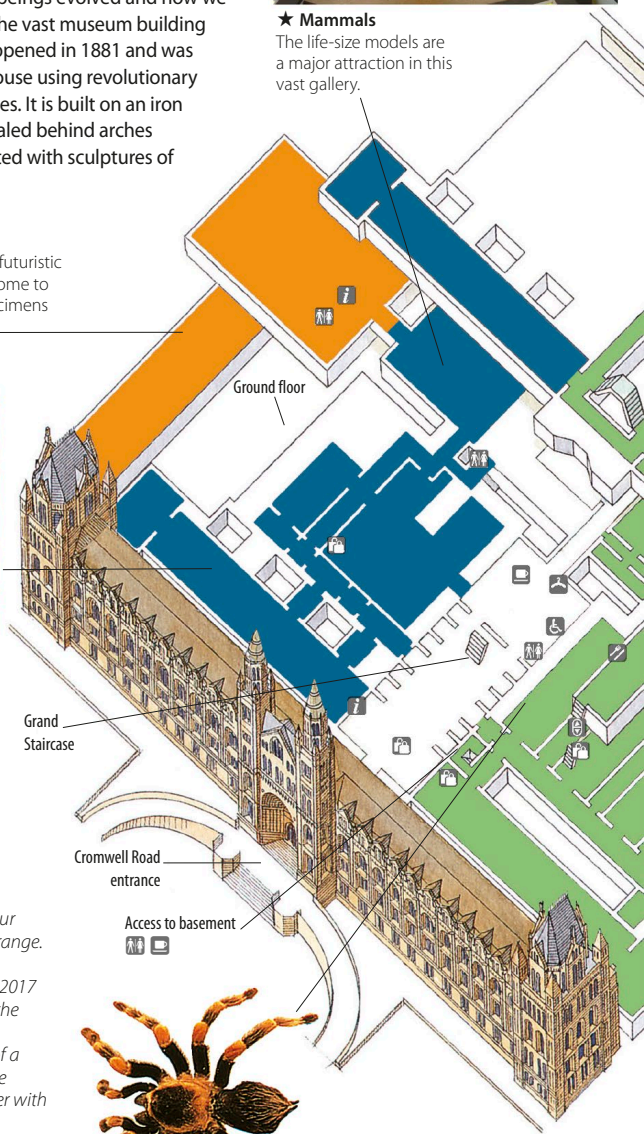
The Hintze Hall is the grand centrepiece of the building. In 2017 its famous guardian, "Dippy" the *Diplodocus* skeleton cast, was replaced by the real skeleton of a blue whale. Beyond, in the Blue Zone, Human Biology, together with Mammals, Dinosaurs and the Images of Nature, are to the left; Creepy Crawlies and Ecology to the right. On the first floor are Our Place in Evolution and The Vault.

The giant escalator in the Earth Hall leads through a stunning globe to Red Zone highlights *The Power Within* and *Earth's Treasury*.



★ Mammals

The life-size models are a major attraction in this vast gallery.



Creepy Crawlies

This popular gallery celebrates arthropods – insects, crustaceans, centipedes and spiders, such as this tarantula.

Key to Floorplan

- Blue Zone
- Green Zone
- Red Zone
- Orange Zone

The Vault

The Vault contains a dazzling collection of the finest gems, crystals, meteorites and metals from around the world, such as this Latrobe gold nugget.



Treasures is a showcase for the best of the museum's collections.

VISITORS' CHECKLIST

Practical Information

Cromwell Rd SW7.

Map 19 A1.

Tel 020 7942 5000.

W nhm.ac.uk

Open 10am–5:50pm daily (to 10pm last Fri of month) – last admission 5:30pm.

Closed 24–26 Dec.

Lectures, workshops for adults and children, film presentations.

Transport

South Kensington. 14, 49, 70, 74, 345, 360, 414, C1.

Second floor

Second floor
Red Zone

Volcanoes and Earthquakes has an earthquake simulator that is very popular.

Earth's Treasury gallery glitters with thousands of gems, rocks and minerals, including some of the Earth's rarest materials.

First floor
Red Zone

Access to Red Zone

Exhibition Road
entrance – Earth
Galleries

Birds

This traditional display, with many species in Victorian glass cases, includes a model of the legendary dodo. A flightless bird from Mauritius, it was extinct by the mid-1600s, a potent symbol of human impact on nature.



★ Earth Hall

Specimens are recessed into the etched slate walls of this beautiful gallery. Access to the rest of the Red Zone is via an escalator that runs through a massive metallic model of the Earth.



2 Science Museum

See pp210–11.



Kids captivated by the exhibits on display in the Science Museum

3 Victoria and Albert Museum

See pp214–17.

4 Brompton Oratory

Brompton Rd SW7. **Map** 19 A1.
Tel 020 7808 0900. South Kensington. **Open** 6:30am–8pm daily.
 6:30pm Tue–Fri, Mass daily 8am
 (see website for other times).
bromptonoratory.co.uk

The Italianate Oratory is a rich (some think a little too rich) monument to the English Catholic revival of the late 19th century. The Oratory was established by John Henry

Newman (who later became Cardinal Newman). Father Frederick William Faber (1814–63) had already founded a London community of priests at Charing Cross. The group had moved to Brompton, then an outlying London district, and this was to be its oratory. Newman and Faber (both Anglican converts to Catholicism) were following the example of St Philip Neri, who set up a community of city-based secular priests living without vows.

The present church was opened in 1884. Its façade and dome were added in the 1890s, and the interior has been progressively enriched ever since. Herbert Gribble, the architect, who was also a Catholic convert, was only 29 when he triumphed in the highly prestigious competition to design it. Inside, all the most eye-catching treasures predate the church – many of them were transported here from Italian churches.

Giuseppe Mazzuoli carved the huge marble figures of the 12 apostles for Siena Cathedral in the late 17th century. The beautiful Lady Altar was originally created in 1693 for the Dominican church in Brescia, and the 18th-century altar in

St Wilfrid's Chapel was actually imported from a church in Rochefort, Belgium.

The Oratory has always been famous for its splendid musical tradition.

5 Royal College of Music

Prince Consort Rd SW7. **Map** 10 F5.
Tel 020 7591 4300. Knightsbridge, South Kensington. Museum of Music:
Tel 020 7591 4842. **Open** Closed for renovation. call 020 7591 4322 before visit. rcm.ac.uk



17th-century viol at the Royal College of Music

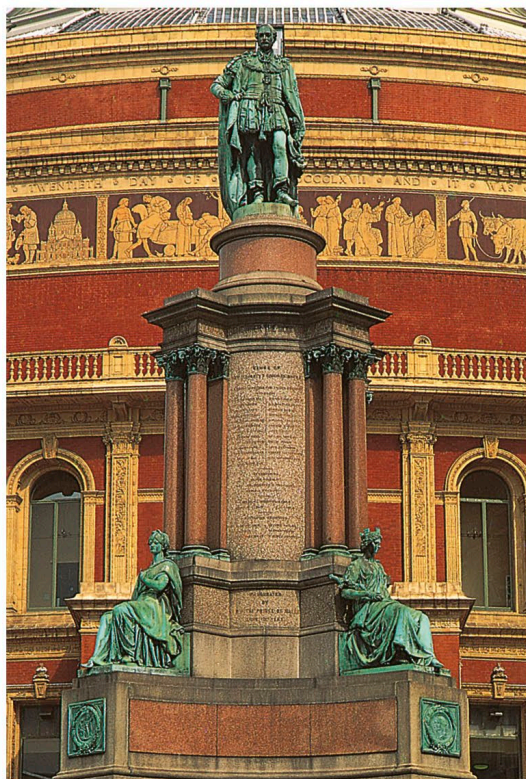
Sir Arthur Blomfield designed the turreted Gothic palace, with Bavarian overtones, that has housed this distinguished institution since 1894. The college was founded in 1882 by George Grove, who also compiled the famous *Dictionary of Music*; pupils have included English composers Benjamin Britten and Ralph Vaughan Williams.

The **Museum of Music** (closed for renovation until 2019) contains a variety of instruments from many parts of the world, together with portraits of great musicians and composers.

Check the website for details of concerts and masterclasses hosted by the college.



The sumptuous interior of Brompton Oratory



Joseph Durham's statue of Prince Albert (1858) in front of the Royal Albert Hall

6 Royal Albert Hall

Kensington Gore SW7. **Map** 10 F5. **Tel** 020 7589 8212. High St Kensington, South Kensington. **Open** for performances daily. from 9:30am daily; book online or by phone. See Entertainment pp344-5. royalalberthall.com

Designed by an engineer, Francis Fowke, and completed in 1871, this huge concert hall was modelled on Roman amphitheatres and is easier on the eye than most Victorian structures. On the red-brick exterior the only ostentation is a frieze symbolizing the triumph of arts and science. The building was planned as the Hall of Arts and Science but Queen Victoria renamed it to the Royal Albert Hall, in memory of her husband, when she laid the foundation stone in 1868.

The hall is often used for classical concerts, most famously the "Proms", but it

also accommodates other large gatherings, such as tennis matches, comedy shows, rock concerts, circus shows and major business conferences.

7 Royal College of Art

Kensington Gore SW7. **Map** 10 F5. **Tel** 020 7590 4444. High St Kensington, South Kensington. **Open** for exhibitions (phone or check online) Lectures, events, film presentations, exhibitions. rca.ac.uk

Sir Hugh Casson's mainly glass-fronted building (1962) is in stark contrast to the Victoriana around it. The college was founded in 1837 as a school of design and practical art for the manufacturing industries. It became noted for modern art in the 1950s and 1960s, when David Hockney, Peter Blake and Eduardo Paolozzi attended.

8 Albert Memorial

South Carriage Drive, Kensington Gdns SW7. **Map** 10 F5. High St Kensington, South Kensington. 2pm & 3pm first Sun of the month, Mar-Dec. royalparks.org.uk

This grandiose but dignified memorial to Queen Victoria's beloved consort was completed in 1876, 15 years after his death. Albert was a German prince and a cousin of Queen Victoria's. When he died from typhoid in 1861, he was only 42 and they had been happily married for 21 years, producing 9 children. It is fitting that the monument is near the site of the 1851 Exhibition (see pp30-31); Albert was closely identified with the Exhibition and the scientific advances it celebrated. The statue, by John Foley, shows him with an exhibition catalogue on his knee.

The Queen chose Sir George Gilbert Scott to design the monument, which stands 55 m (175 ft) high. It is loosely based on a medieval market cross – although considerably more elaborate, with a black and gilded spire, multi-coloured marble canopy, stones, mosaics, enamels, wrought iron and nearly 200 sculpted figures. In October 1998, the re-gilded statue was unveiled by Elizabeth II; it had been painted black in 1915 to avoid attracting attention during World War I.



Victoria and Albert at the Great Exhibition opening (1851)

2 Science Museum

Centuries of continuing scientific and technological development lie at the heart of the Science Museum's massive collection. The variety of objects displayed is magnificent: from steam engines to aeroengines; spacecraft to the first mechanical computers. Equally important is the social context of science – what discoveries and inventions mean for day-to-day life – and the process of discovery itself. The high-tech Wellcome Wing has interactive displays, an IMAX cinema, a 3D theatre and galleries devoted to new advances in science. The museum is undergoing renovations, so some floors and galleries may be closed and others may have temporary exhibitions.

Clockmakers' Museum

This collection of over a thousand watches, clocks and chronometers explores the history of timekeeping.



Agriculture

Original machinery and large-scale models provide an insight into working life on an arable farm.

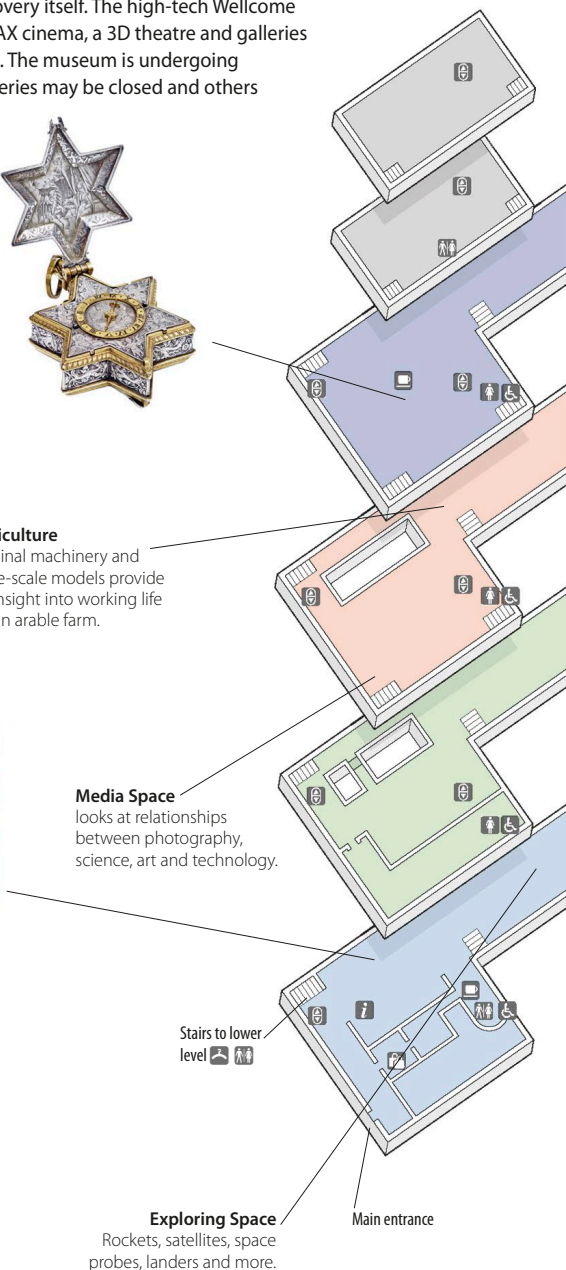


★ The Energy Hall

Dedicated to steam power, this gallery includes the still-operational Harle Syke Mill Engine (1903).

Key to Floorplan

- Basement
- Ground floor
- First floor
- Second floor
- Third floor
- Closed for renovation
- Wellcome Wing



★ Flight and Fly Zone

This gallery is packed with early flying contraptions, fighter planes and aeroengines, many of them suspended as if in mid-flight. Next door, the Fly Zone has flight simulators and other interactive aviation experiences.



VISITORS' CHECKLIST

Practical Information

Exhibition Rd SW7

Map 19 A1.

Tel 0870 870 4868.

W sciencemuseum.org.uk

Open 10am–6pm daily.

Closed 24–26 Dec. ☞ some exhibitions, activities & IMAX cinema. ♿ Lectures, films, workshops. 📺 📺

Transport

🚶 South Kensington. 🚶 9, 10, 14, 49, 52, 70, 74, 345, 360, 414, 430, 452, C1.

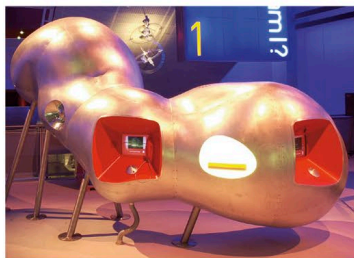


Atmosphere

This interactive gallery allows visitors to explore the science behind our changing climate – how it works, why it changes and what might happen in the future.

★ Who Am I?

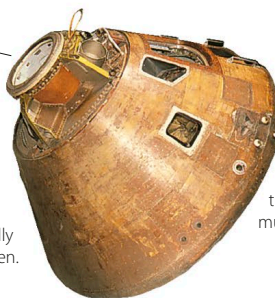
Find out what makes you unique and explore the science of being human. The exhibition utilizes intriguing objects, displays and hands-on exhibits.



Escalator to IMAX cinema

The Garden

Hands-on galleries specifically designed for younger children.

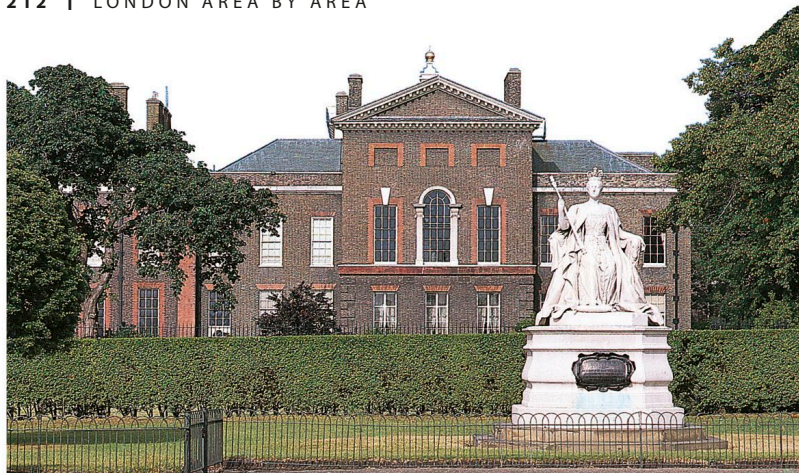


★ Making the Modern World

Apollo 10 took US astronauts around the moon in May 1969, and now forms part of this stunning gallery of museum highlights.

Gallery Guide

The Science Museum is spread over seven floors, balconies and mezzanine levels. The Wellcome Wing, offering four floors of interactive technology, is at the west end of the museum and is accessible from the ground floor and third floor of the main building. Power dominates the ground floor; here too are Exploring Space and Making the Modern World. The first floor has Challenge of Materials and Agriculture. On the second floor, a range of diverse galleries look at energy, mathematics and medicine. The third floor includes Flight and interactive galleries. The fourth and fifth floors (accessible only by one of the lifts) house the medical history galleries but are closed for renovation.



Statue of young Queen Victoria, by her daughter Princess Louise, outside Kensington Palace

9 Serpentine Gallery

Kensington Gdns and West Carriage Drive, W2. **Map** 11 A4. **Tel** 020 7402 6075. Lancaster Gate, South Kensington. **Open** 10am–6pm Tue–Sun. **Closed** 1 Jan, 24–26, 31 Dec & between exhibitions. Lectures. art bookshop. serpentinegalleries.org

The Serpentine Gallery houses temporary exhibitions of major and emerging contemporary artists' and architects' work. This exciting gallery transforms its space to suit the exhibits. Every summer, a temporary pavilion (open daily) is commissioned from a major architect. A second building, the Serpentine Sackler Gallery, in a former gunpowder store a 5-minute walk from the main space, displays similarly ambitious exhibits. An extension, designed by Zaha Hadid, houses the Magazine restaurant.

10 Kensington Palace

Kensington Palace Gdns W8. **Map** 10 D4. **Tel** 0844 482 7777. High St Kensington, Queensway, Notting Hill Gate. **Open** Mar–Oct: 10am–6pm daily; Nov–Feb: 10am–4pm daily; (last day: 1 hr earlier). **Closed** 24–26 Dec. Exhibitions. hrp.org.uk

Half of this spacious palace is used as royal apartments; the other half, which includes the 18th-century state rooms, is

open to the public. When William III and his wife Mary came to the throne in 1689, they bought a mansion, dating from 1605, and commissioned Christopher Wren to convert it into a royal palace. He created separate suites of rooms for the king and queen.

The palace has seen some important royal events. In 1714, Queen Anne died here from a fit of apoplexy brought on by over-eating and, on 20 June 1837, Princess Victoria of Kent was woken at 5am to be told that her uncle William IV had died and she was now queen – the start of her 64-year reign. After the death in 1997 of Diana, Princess of Wales, the gold gates south of the palace became a focal point for mourners in their thousands, who turned the surrounding area into a field of bouquets.

Visitors can explore inside the King's and Queen's state apartments, the latter little changed since it was designed for Mary in the 17th century. The King's Staircase is particularly impressive, lavishly painted for George I by William Kent. Another exhibit examines the life of Queen Victoria. The palace also often displays clothes worn by many of the royals, including the Queen and Princess Diana.

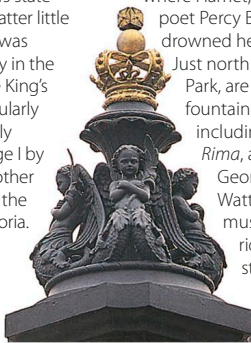
11 Kensington Gardens

W8. **Map** 10 E4. **Tel** 0300 061 2000. Bayswater, High St Kensington, Queensway, Lancaster Gate. **Open** 6am–dusk daily. royalparks.org.uk

The former grounds of Kensington Palace became a public park in 1841. A small part of it has been dedicated as a memorial playground to Diana, Princess of Wales (see p223). The gardens are full of charm, starting with Sir George Frampton's statue (1912) of J M Barrie's fictional Peter Pan, the boy who never grew up, playing his pipes for the bronze fairies and animals that cling to the column below. Often surrounded by parents, nannies and their charges, the statue stands near the west bank of the Serpentine, not far from where Harriet, wife of the poet Percy Bysshe Shelley, drowned herself in 1816.

Just north of here, in Hyde Park, are the ornamental fountains and statues, including Jacob Epstein's *Rima*, at the lake's head.

George Frederick Watts' statue of a muscular horse and rider, *Physical Energy*, stands to the south. Not far away is a summer house designed by William Kent in 1735, and the



Detail of the Coalbrookdale gate, Kensington Gardens

Serpentine Gallery. The Round Pond, created in 1728 just east of the palace, is often packed with model boats navigated by children and older enthusiasts.

In the north, near Lancaster Gate, is a dogs' cemetery, started in 1880 by the Duke of Cambridge after the death of one of his pets.



Riding on Rotten Row, Hyde Park

12 Hyde Park

W2. **Map** 11 B3. **Tel** 0300 061 2000.

📍 Hyde Park Corner, Knightsbridge, Lancaster Gate, Marble Arch. **Open** 5am–midnight daily. 📺 Sports facilities. www.royalparks.org.uk

The ancient manor of Hyde was part of the lands of Westminster Abbey seized by Henry VIII at the Dissolution of the Monasteries in 1536. It has remained a royal park ever since. Henry used it for hunting but James I opened it to the public in the early 17th century. The Serpentine, an artificial lake used for boating and bathing, was created when Caroline, George II's queen, dammed the flow of the Westbourne River in 1730.

In its time, the park has been a venue for duelling, horse racing, demonstrations and music. The 1851 Exhibition was held here in a vast glass palace (see pp30–31). There is a Princess Diana Memorial fountain to the south of the Serpentine. Hyde Park is the setting for one of the UK's largest Christmas markets, complete with an ice rink and funfair.

13 Speakers' Corner

Hyde Park W2. **Map** 11 C2.

📍 Marble Arch.

An 1872 law made it legal to assemble an audience and address them on whatever topic you chose; since then this corner of Hyde Park has become the established venue for budding public speakers and a fair number of eccentrics. It is well worth spending time here on a Sunday: speakers from fringe groups and one-member political parties reveal their plans for the betterment of humanity while the assembled onlookers heckle them without mercy.

14 Marble Arch

Park Lane W1. **Map** 11 C2.

📍 Marble Arch.

John Nash designed the arch in 1827 as the main entrance to Buckingham Palace. It was, however, too narrow for the grandest coaches and was moved here in 1851. Historically, only senior members of the royal family and one of the royal artillery regiments are allowed to pass under it.

The arch stands near the site of the old Tyburn gallows (marked by a plaque), where until 1783 the city's most notorious criminals were hanged in front of crowds of bloodthirsty spectators.



An orator at Speakers' Corner

15 Harrods

87–135 Brompton Rd, Knightsbridge SW1. **Map** 11 C5. **Tel** 020 7730 1234.

📍 Knightsbridge. **Open** 10am–9pm

Mon–Sat, 11:30am–6pm Sun. 📺 📺

📱 See Shops and Markets p317.

🌐 [harrods.com](http://www.harrods.com)

London's most famous department store began in 1849 when Henry Charles Harrod opened a small grocery shop nearby on Brompton Road. By concentrating on good quality and impeccable service, the store soon became popular enough to expand.

It used to be claimed that Harrods could supply anything from a packet of pins to an elephant – not quite true today, but the range of stock is still vast. A dress code applies: shorts, bare midriffs and flip-flops are not permitted.



Harrods at night, lit by 11,500 lights

Victoria and Albert Museum

The Victoria and Albert Museum (the V&A) contains one of the world's widest collections of art and design, ranging from early Christian devotional objects to cutting-edge furniture design. Originally founded in 1852 as the Museum of Manufactures to inspire design students, it was renamed by Queen Victoria in 1899 in memory of Prince Albert. The museum is undergoing a dramatic renovation, including work on a number of galleries, the facilities near the Exhibition Road entrance and the Sackler Education Centre, so expect some temporary closures.



British Galleries (1760–1900)

This charming sweet box (1770) is one of many pieces on display that were crafted in the workshops of Britain.



★ British Galleries (1500–1760)

Displays of evocative objects, such as this writing desk from King Henry VIII's court, illustrate Britain's fascinating history.



Silver Galleries

Pieces such as the Burges Cup (Britain, 1863) fill these galleries.



★ Fashion Gallery

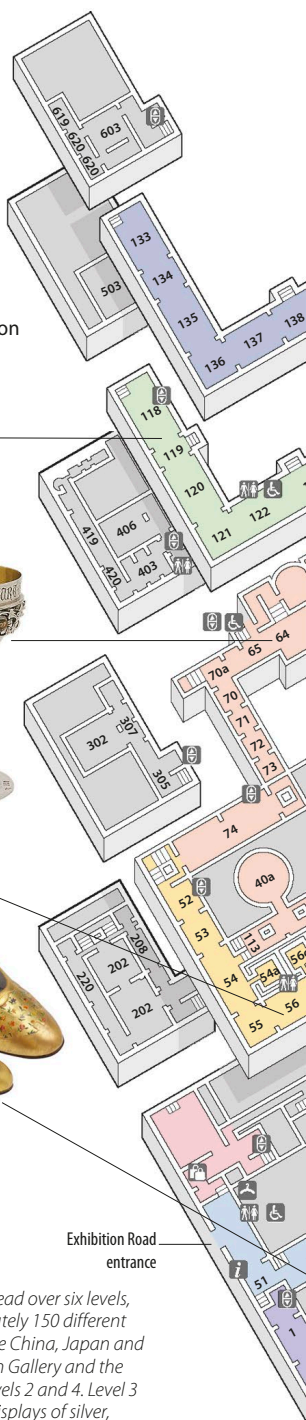
European fashion, fabrics and accessories from 1750 to the present day are on display, including these gold 1920s Lilley & Skinner shoes.

Key to Floorplan

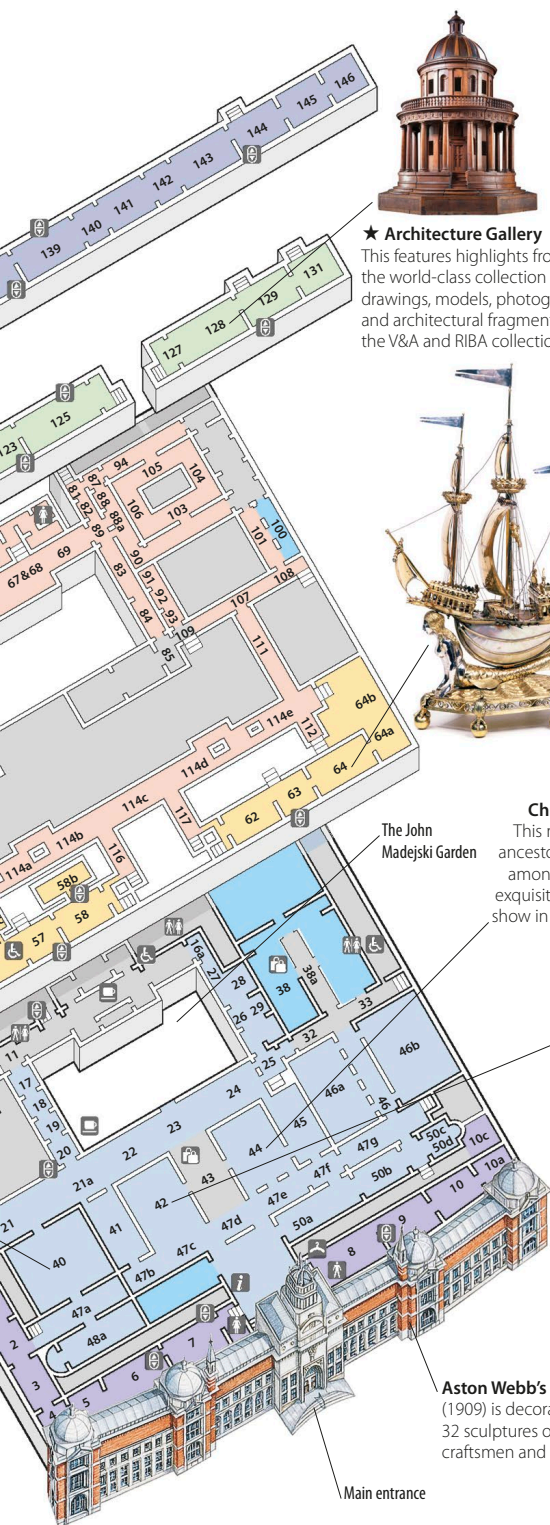
- Level 0
- Level 1
- Level 2
- Level 3
- Level 4
- Level 6
- Henry Cole Wing
- Non-exhibition space
- Temporary exhibitions

Gallery Guide

The V&A has an 11-km (7-mile) layout spread over six levels, and the museum incorporates approximately 150 different galleries. The main floor, level 1, houses the China, Japan and South Asia Galleries, as well as the Fashion Gallery and the Cast Courts. The British Galleries are on levels 2 and 4. Level 3 contains the 20th Century Galleries and displays of silver, ironwork, paintings, photography and design works. The glass display is also on level 4. The Ceramics Galleries and Furniture are on level 6. European galleries from 300 to 1800 are on Level 0. On the ground floor, to the rear beyond the courtyard, are the beautiful café rooms, featuring designs by William Morris.



Exhibition Road
entrance



★ Architecture Gallery

This features highlights from the world-class collection of drawings, models, photographs and architectural fragments from the V&A and RIBA collections.



★ Medieval and Renaissance Galleries

The stunning Burghley Nef (France, 1527) is one of the many treasures in rooms 62–64.



China Gallery

This magnificent ancestor portrait is among the many exquisite pieces on show in this gallery.



Islamic Middle East Gallery

On display are fantastic objects representing the finest in Islamic art and design, such as this 16th-century table from the Ottoman Empire.

Aston Webb's façade (1909) is decorated with 32 sculptures of English craftsmen and designers.

Main entrance

VISITORS' CHECKLIST

Practical Information

Cromwell Rd SW7.

Map 19 A1.

Tel 020 7942 2000.

vam.ac.uk

Open 10am–5.45pm daily
(10am–10pm Fri).

Closed 24–26 Dec.

Lectures, presentations, tours, exhibitions, events.

Transport

South Kensington. 14, 74, 414, C1.

Exploring the V&A's Collections

The sheer size of the V&A means you should plan your visit carefully to avoid missing a highlight or an area of particular interest. The following sections list highlights but are by no means exhaustive. Be sure to visit the museum's original refreshment rooms off room 16a (one of which was designed by William Morris), now being used again as a café. If the weather is good, don't miss the John Madejski Garden. The Photographs galleries (rooms 38a and 100) display a changing selection of 300,000 photographs from 1856 to the present.

British Galleries

A sequence of grand rooms starting on level 2 and continuing on level 4 are devoted to the luxurious British Galleries. Covering design and decorative arts from 1500 to 1900, the galleries chart Britain's rise from obscure island to "workshop of the world". The galleries present the evolution of British design and the numerous influences, whether technological or aesthetic, it has absorbed from all over the world.

Beautiful textiles, furniture, costumes and household objects illustrate the tastes and lifestyles of Britain's ruling classes. Among the highlights are James II's wedding suit, the opulent State Bed from Melville House, and a number of carefully preserved period rooms, including the stunning Rococo Norfolk House Music Room. Discovery Areas give visitors a chance



Waistcoat (1734)
in room 52b

to delve even deeper into the past by sporting a Tudor ruff or viewing 3D images through a Victorian stereoscope.

China, Japan and South Asia

The Jameel Gallery of Islamic Art was opened in July 2006 and houses a significant collection of more than 400 objects, including ceramics, textiles, carpets, metalwork, glass and woodwork. The exhibits date from the great days of the Islamic caliphate of the 8th and 9th centuries through to the years preceding World War I.

Middle Eastern art from Syria, Iraq, Iran and Egypt, and art from Turkey, is found in room 42. Beautifully crafted textiles and ceramics illustrate the Islamic influence on fine and decorative arts. A dramatic arc of burnished steel fins, representing the spine of a Chinese dragon, spans the China gallery

(room 44). Covering the millennia from 3000 BC to the present, the impressive collection includes a giant Buddha's head from 700–900 AD, a huge yet elegant Ming canopied bed, and rare jade and ceramics.

Japanese art is concentrated in the gallery in room 45, and is particularly notable for lacquer, Samurai armour and woodblock prints.



Gilt copper ice chest
(Qing Dynasty 1700s), room 44

Architecture Gallery

The Architecture Gallery features highlights from the world-class collections of drawings, models, photographs and architectural fragments of the V&A and the Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) in both permanent displays and temporary exhibitions.

A superb collection of artifacts and illustrations spanning world cultures explores key themes, such as construction techniques and the role of public buildings. Don't miss the exquisitely detailed architectural scale models, including a traditional Japanese house, Modernist constructions from Ernő Goldfinger and others, and British designs such as Charles Barry's Gothic plans for the Palace of Westminster.

The Great Bed of Ware

Made from oak in around 1590, with inlaid and painted decoration, the Great Bed of Ware measures some 3.6 by 3.6 m (12 by 12 ft) and is 2.6 m (8 ft 9 inches) high. It is the V&A's most celebrated piece of furniture. Elaborately carved and decorated, the bed is a superb example of the art of the English woodworker. Its name derives from the town of Ware in Hertfordshire, about a day's ride north of London, where it resided in a number of inns. The Great Bed's enormous size made it an early tourist attraction, and no doubt interest was boosted by Shakespeare's reference to it in *Twelfth Night*, which he wrote in 1601.



Redecorated and refurbished, the bed is located in room 57.



Detail of the Ardabil Carpet (c.1539–40) in the Jameel Gallery of Islamic Art

Europe

Ten galleries, occupying an entire wing of the museum, house some of the world's greatest treasures of medieval and Renaissance Europe. Among the many remarkable exhibits are the notebooks of Leonardo da Vinci; sculptures by Italian masters such as Donatello and Giambologna, some in a Renaissance courtyard garden setting; the fine enamel Becket Casket (c.1180); and the reconstructed Santa Chiara Chapel, the only one of its kind outside Italy.

The Europe collection continues in the Level 0 galleries of the opposite wing, which cover the period 1600 to 1800, and include several re-created period rooms. Room 48a on the ground floor is dedicated to the famous Raphael cartoons – huge designs for tapestries planned for the Sistine Chapel, dating from 1515. The cartoons were acquired by Charles I.

Another of the most famous sights at the V&A are the extraordinary cast courts, which have been part of the museum since its founding. They house large plaster casts of major European sculptures, such as Rome's Trajan's Column (in two pieces) and a 5 m (16 ft) tall reproduction of Michaelangelo's *David*, created so that visitors to the museum could see these works without travelling.

Textiles and Fashion

The popular Fashion Gallery displays items from the largest and most comprehensive collection of dress in the world. Around 100 exhibits, spanning over three centuries, are arranged chronologically.

They include a magnificent mantua from the 1760s; an 1850s wedding dress with veil and shoes; a Schiaparelli evening coat embroidered with a design by Jean Cocteau; and a punk outfit designed by Vivienne Westwood. Textiles are also found throughout the museum's collections; the Japanese galleries in particular have some exquisite kimonos and other traditional textiles.



Ruby glass flagon (c.1858–9)

Metalwork

This group of galleries is located on level 3. In the Silver Galleries, 3,500 pieces from 1400 to the present day are shown in the beautifully refurbished Victorian rooms 65 to 69.

Arms and armour, European metalwork from the 1500s to the present, and Islamic brass and bronze can be found in rooms 81, 82 and 87 to 89.

The Sacred Silver and Stained Glass galleries in rooms 83 and 84 display devotional treasures. The highlight of the Ironwork galleries, which are located

in rooms 113 to 114e, is the dazzling Hereford Screen designed by Sir George Gilbert Scott in 1862, and displayed at the International Exhibition of that year. The screen became the V&A's largest conservation project.

The Gilbert Collection of gold, silver, micromosaics and gold boxes, formerly housed at Somerset House, re-opened here in 2009.

Glass and Ceramics

The museum has the most comprehensive collection of glass and ceramics in the world. Examples of glass covering 2,000 years are largely housed in room 131, which has a stunning glass balustrade on the staircase and mezzanine by artist Danny Lane. Displays of international contemporary glass are on display in this room and in room 129.

The ceramics collection has an introductory gallery presenting the history and development of ceramics across the world. All of the major British pottery factories are represented.



Stained-glass roundel illustrating *Susanna Accused by the Elders* (c.1520)



Barham Antiques

83

Gallery

ANTIQUE
CLOCKS
&
REPAIRS
CLOCKCENTRE.COM

T
H

KENSINGTON AND HOLLAND PARK

The western and northern perimeters of Kensington Gardens make up a rich residential and commercial area. The shops on Kensington High Street are almost as smart as those in Knightsbridge, and Kensington Church Street is a good source of quality antiques. Around Holland Park are some magnificent late Victorian houses, two of them open to the public. But as you cross into Bayswater and Notting Hill, you enter a more vibrant, cosmopolitan part of London, with Queensway home to numerous Middle Eastern restaurants. Notting Hill is historically associated

with London's African-Caribbean community; the area's flamboyant Carnival first took to the streets in 1966 and has been staged every year since on the last weekend in August (see p61). Now that the area is fully gentrified, the elegant stucco terraces, market and independent shops attract an increasingly trendy set including a few famous names, as depicted in the eponymous film. Meanwhile, Portobello Road street market, selling everything from food to antiques, draws in tourists and Londoners from across the city at weekends.

Sights at a Glance

Historic Streets and Buildings

- 2 Holland House
- 3 Leighton House
- 5 18 Stafford Terrace
- 7 Kensington Square
- 8 Kensington Palace Gardens

Museums

- 4 Design Museum

Parks and Gardens

- 1 Holland Park
- 6 Kensington Roof Gardens
- 9 The Diana, Princess of Wales Memorial Playground

Markets

- 10 Portobello Road

Area of Interest

- 11 Notting Hill



Street Finder maps 9, 10, 17



Restaurants see pp299–301

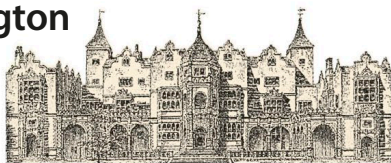
- 1 Babylon at the Roof Garden
- 2 The Belvedere
- 3 Bill's
- 4 Fiona's
- 5 Kensington Place
- 6 Kitchen W8



0 metres 500
0 yards 500

Street-by-Street: Kensington and Holland Park

Although now part of central London, as recently as the 1830s this was a country village of market gardens and mansions. Outstanding among these was Holland House; part of its grounds are now Holland Park. The area grew up rapidly in the mid-19th century and most of its buildings date from then – mainly expensive apartments, mansion flats and fashionable shops.



2 Holland House

This rambling Jacobean mansion, started in 1605 and pictured here in 1795, was largely demolished in the 1950s.



1 ★ Holland Park

Parts of the old formal gardens of Holland House feature in this delightful public park.

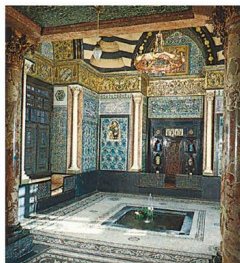


The Orangery, now a restaurant, has parts that date from the 1630s, when it was within the grounds of Holland House.

4 DesignMuseum

The museum is an international showcase for the many design skills at which Britain excels.

Melbury Road is lined with large Victorian houses. Many were built for fashionable artists of the time.

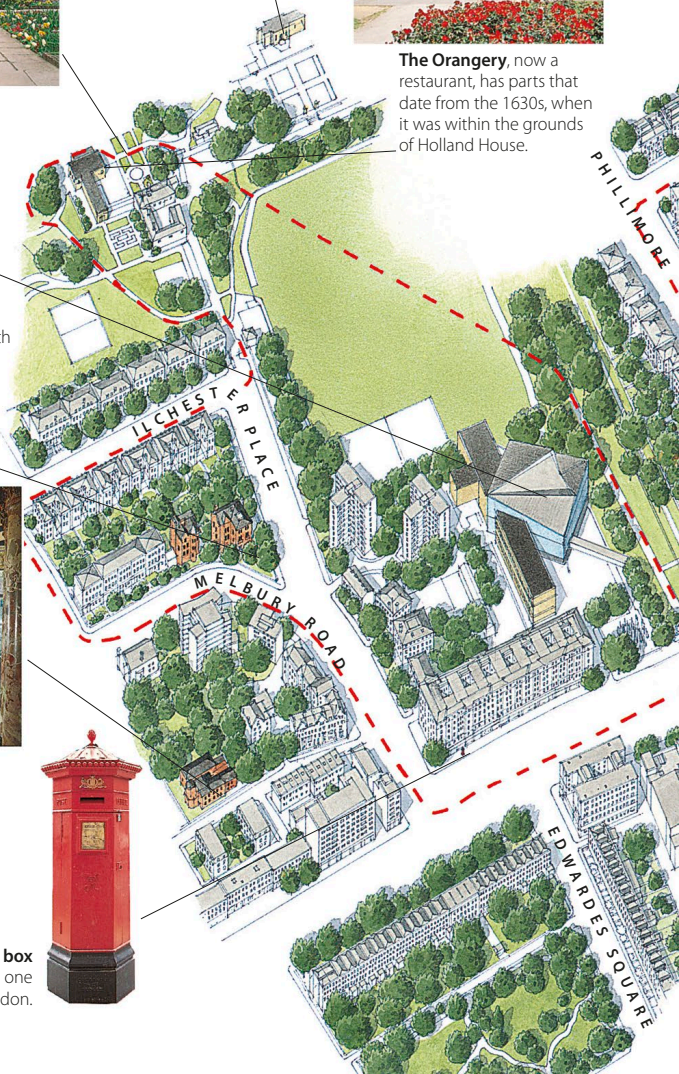


3 ★ Leighton House

The house is preserved as it was when the Victorian painter Lord Leighton lived here.



The Victorian letter box on the High Street is one of the oldest in London.





**No. 16
Phillimore**

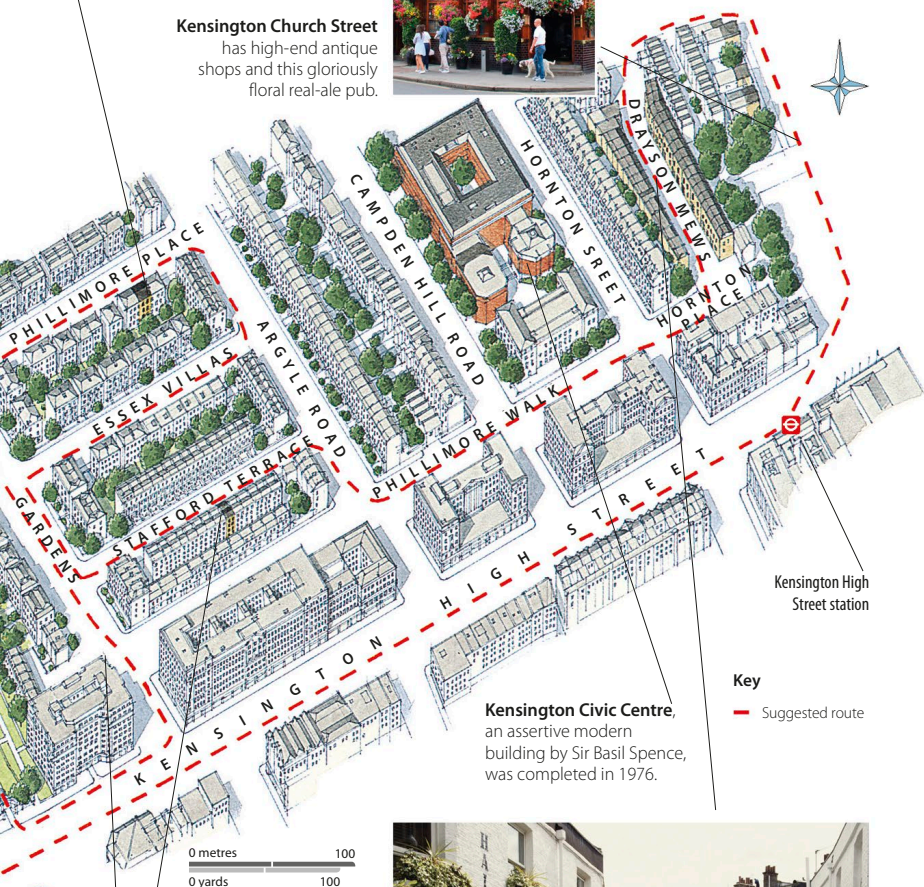
Place was home to the author of the children's classic *The Wind in the Willows*, from 1901 until 1908.

Kensington Church Street has high-end antique shops and this gloriously floral real-ale pub.



Locator Map

See Central London Map pp16-17



5 18 Stafford Terrace

has a superb, carefully preserved late Victorian interior, complete with original furnishings and draperies.

Sticky Fingers, a lively café on the corner of Phillimore Gardens, is owned by Bill Wyman, former guitarist of the Rolling Stones.

Kensington Civic Centre, an assertive modern building by Sir Basil Spence, was completed in 1976.

Key

— Suggested route



Drayson Mews is one of the quaint alleys that were built behind large town houses for the stabling of horses and coaches. Today most have been converted into small houses.



The café in Holland Park

1 Holland Park

Abbotsbury Rd W14. **Map** 9 B5.

Tel 020 7361 3003 to book facilities.

📍 Holland Park, High Street Kensington, Notting Hill Gate.

Open 7:30am–dusk daily (hours are flexible depending on season).

Closed 25 Dec. 🎭 🎪 Open-air opera, theatre, dance. Information: **Tel** 020 7361 3570. Art exhibitions Apr. See *Entertainment* pp340–41.

🌐 rbkc.gov.uk

This small but delightful park, more wooded and intimate than the large royal parks to its east (Hyde Park and Kensington Gardens, see pp212–13), was opened in 1952 on what remained of the grounds of Holland House – the rest had been sold off in the late 19th century for the construction of new, large houses. The park still contains some of the formal gardens laid out in the early 19th century. There is also a Japanese garden, created for the 1991 London Festival of Japan. The park is full of wildlife, including peacocks.

2 Holland House

Holland Park W8. **Map** 9 B5. 📍

Holland Park, High Street Kensington. Hostel **Tel** 020 7870 9629.

During its heyday in the 19th century, this was a noted centre of social and political intrigue. Statesmen such as Lord Palmerston mixed here with the likes of the poet Lord Byron. The Jacobean house suffered

heavy bomb damage during World War II; the remains are now used as a youth hostel.

Outbuildings are put to various uses: exhibitions are held in the orangery and the ice house, and the old Garden Ballroom is now a restaurant.

3 Leighton House

12 Holland Park Rd W14. **Map** 17 B1.

Tel 020 7602 3316. 📍 High St Kensington. **Open** 10am–5:30pm Wed–Mon (to 9pm select Thu). **Closed** 1 Jan, 25 Dec. 🎭 🎪 3pm Wed & Sun or by appt for groups. 📱 📺

Concerts, exhibitions, talks. 🌐 rbkc.gov.uk/subsites/museums.aspx

Built for respected Victorian painter Lord Leighton in 1864–79, the house has been preserved with its opulent decoration as an extraordinary monument to Victorian aesthetics. The highlight is the Arab Hall, added in 1879 to house Leighton's collection of Islamic tiles, some inscribed with text from the Koran. There are paintings and drawings displayed including some by Edward Burne-Jones, John Millais, G F Watts and many works by Leighton himself.



Original tiling in Holland House

4 Design Museum

224–238, Kensington High St W8.

Map 9 C5. **Tel** 020 7940 8790. 📍

High St Kensington, Earls Court, Holland Park. **Open** 10am–6pm daily (last adm: 5pm). **Closed** 25 & 26 Dec.

📱 📺 🌐 designmuseum.org

This Grade II-listed building houses one permanent and two temporary galleries under an architecturally remarkable roof. Devoted solely to modern and contemporary design, and its impact on our lives, the museum features temporary exhibitions, a library, auditorium, a learning centre, restaurant and shops.

5 18 Stafford Terrace

18 Stafford Terrace W8. **Map** 9 C5.


Tel 020 7602 3316 Mon–Fri; 020 7938 1295 Sat & Sun. 📍 High St Kensington. **Open** 2–5:30pm Wed, Sat & Sun.

📱 📺 11am Wed, Sat & Sun (costumed tour Sat); book ahead.

🌐 rbkc.gov.uk/subsites/museums.aspx

The former home of Linley Sambourne, 18 Stafford Terrace, was built in about 1870. It has undergone a major renovation but remains much as Sambourne furnished it – in the Victorian manner, with Oriental ornaments and heavy velvet drapes. Sambourne was a cartoonist for the satirical magazine *Punch*; drawings cram the walls of the house. Some rooms have William Morris wallpaper (see p253).

6 Kensington Roof Gardens

99 Kensington High Street W8 (entrance in Derry Street). **Map** 10 D5. **Tel** 020 7937 7994; restaurant reservations 020 7268 3993. **Open** 9am–5pm daily (but call ahead or check website, as often closed for private functions). Photo ID required.  virginlimitededition.com/en/the-roof-gardens

High above the bustle of Kensington High Street is one of London's best-kept secrets – a 6,000-sq m (1.5-acre) roof garden. First planted in the 1930s by the owners of Derry & Toms department store below (which houses many different stores), the themed gardens are a lavish flight of fancy and feature a woodland garden, a Spanish garden (with palm trees) and a formal English garden (with a pond, live ducks and a pair of pink flamingos). Best of all, it's free to wander round, though there is no access when the gardens have been booked for events; there's also a restaurant, and a club night on Friday and Saturday.

7 Kensington Square


W8. **Map** 10 D5.  High St Kensington.

This is one of London's oldest squares. It was laid out in the 1680s, and a few early 18th-century houses still remain. (Nos. 11 and 12 are the oldest.) The renowned philosopher John Stuart Mill lived at No. 18, and the Pre-Raphaelite painter and illustrator Edward Burne-Jones at No. 41.



Kensington Roof Gardens

8 Kensington Palace Gardens

W8. **Map** 10 D3.  High St Kensington, Notting Hill Gate, Queensway.

This private road of luxury mansions occupies the site of the former kitchen gardens of Kensington Palace (see p212); its southern end is known as Palace Green. It is accessible to pedestrians but not cars, unless they have specific business. Many of the houses are occupied by embassies, though some have become private residences once again. It's said to be the most expensive street in London.

9 The Diana, Princess of Wales Memorial Playground

Kensington Gardens. **Map** 10 E3. **Tel** 0300 061 2001.  Bayswater, Queensway. **Open** daily, Feb & late Oct: 10am–4:45pm; Mar & early Oct: 10am–5:45pm; Apr & Sep: 10am–6:45pm; May–Aug: 10am–7:45pm; Nov–Jan: 10am–3:45pm. **Closed** 25 Dec.   royalparks.org.uk

The newest of Kensington Gardens' three playgrounds was opened in 2000. Located close to the Bayswater Road, on the site of an earlier playground funded by Peter Pan's creator, J M Barrie, it takes the boy who didn't want to grow up as its theme and is packed with novel ideas and activities including a beach cove with a 15-m (50-ft) pirates' galleon, a tree house with walkways, and a mermaid's fountain with a half-submerged slumbering crocodile (careful not to rouse him!). Though all children up to the age of 12 must be accompanied by an adult, staff are on hand to make sure the children are safe. Many features of the playground are accessible to children with special needs.



Antique shop on Portobello Road

10 Portobello Road

W11. **Map** 9 C3.  Notting Hill Gate, Ladbroke Grove. Portobello Market **Open** Main market including antiques 9am–7pm Fri & Sat; fruit & veg, clothing and bric-a-brac market 9am–6pm Mon–Wed & 9am–1pm Thu. See also Shops and Markets p337.  portbelloroad.co.uk

There has been a market here since 1837. Today the southern end consists mostly of stalls that sell antiques, jewellery, souvenirs and other collectables – the busiest day is Saturday, when the antiques arcades are open. The market is extremely popular with tourists and tends to be very crowded. However, it is well worth visiting just to experience its bustling, cheerful atmosphere. If you are looking for bargains, be warned – the stallholders have a sound idea of the value of what they are selling. Other markets run along the rest of the street on different days, with vintage and new clothes featured around Portobello Green, under Westway near Ladbroke Grove Tube.

11 Notting Hill

W11. **Map** 9 C3.  Notting Hill Gate.

Now the home of Europe's biggest street carnival, most of this area was farmland until the 19th century. In the 1950s and 1960s, it became a centre for the Caribbean community, many of whom lived here when they first arrived in Britain. The carnival started in 1966 and takes over the area every August over the bank holiday weekend (see p61) when costumed parades meander through the streets.



REGENT'S PARK AND MARYLEBONE

The area south of Regent's Park, incorporating the medieval village of Marylebone, has London's highest concentration of quality Georgian housing, developed by Robert Harley, Earl of Oxford, in the 18th century.

Terraces by John Nash adorn the southern edge of Regent's Park, home to London's magnificent zoo and a delightful open-air theatre, while Marylebone High Street retains a village-like atmosphere with its independent shops.

Sights at a Glance

Historic Streets and Buildings

- 4 Harley Street
- 5 Portland Place
- 6 Broadcasting House
- 15 Cumberland Terrace

Museums and Galleries

- 10 Wallace Collection
- 11 Sherlock Holmes Museum

Churches and Mosques

- 3 St Marylebone Parish Church
- 7 All Souls, Langham Place
- 12 London Central Mosque

Parks and Gardens

- 2 Regent's Park

Attractions

- 1 Madame Tussauds
- 9 Wigmore Hall
- 14 London Zoo

Historic Hotels

- 8 Langham Hotel

Historic Waterways

- 13 Regent's Canal



Street Finder maps 3, 4, 12

□ Restaurants see pp301–2

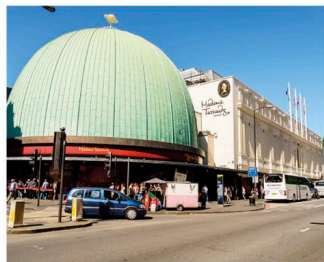
- 1 Galvin Bistrot de Luxe
- 2 Golden Hind
- 3 Orrery
- 4 The Providores and Tapa Room
- 5 Texture

◀ Georgian-style architecture, Regent's Park

For keys to symbols see back flap

Street-by-Street: Marylebone

South of Regent's Park lies the medieval village of Marylebone (originally Maryburne, the stream by St Mary's church). Until the 18th century it was surrounded by fields, but these were built over as fashionable London drifted west. In the mid-19th century, professional people, especially doctors, used the spacious houses to receive wealthy clients. The area has maintained both its medical connections and its elegance. Marylebone High Street is full of interesting, high-quality food and clothes shops, bookshops and cafés.



1 ★ Madame Tussauds

This waxworks museum has been in business since 1835 and remains one of London's most popular attractions. It moved to its present location in 1884.

The Royal Academy of Music, England's first music academy, was founded in 1774. The present brick building, with its own concert hall, is from 1911.



2 ★ Regent's Park

John Nash laid out the royal park in 1812 as a setting for classically designed villas and terraces.



3 ★ St Marylebone Parish Church

Poets Robert Browning and Elizabeth Barrett married in this church.

Baker Street station

Marylebone High Street is lined with attractive shops. At No. 83 is Daunt Books with its galleried interior. On the corner of Marylebone Lane, VV Rouleaux is a gloriously colourful haberdashery shop.





Park Crescent's breathtaking façades by Nash have been preserved, although the interiors were rebuilt as offices in the 1960s. The crescent seals the north end of Nash's ceremonial route from St James's to Regent's Park, via Regent Street and Portland Place.



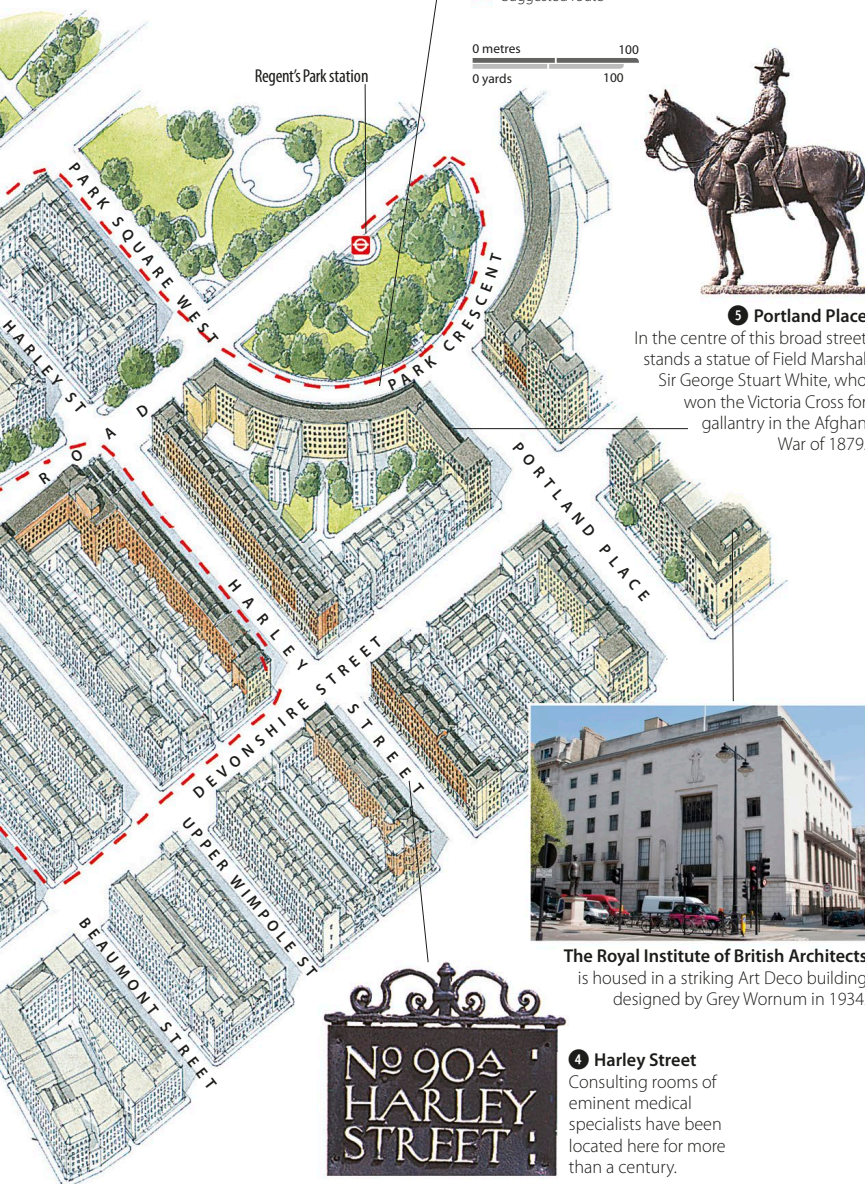
Locator Map

See Central London Map pp16–17

Key

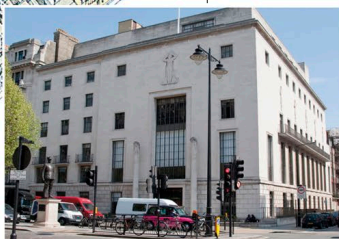
— Suggested route

0 metres 100
0 yards 100



5 Portland Place

In the centre of this broad street stands a statue of Field Marshal Sir George Stuart White, who won the Victoria Cross for gallantry in the Afghan War of 1879.



The Royal Institute of British Architects is housed in a striking Art Deco building designed by Grey Wornum in 1934.

4 Harley Street

Consulting rooms of eminent medical specialists have been located here for more than a century.



1 Madame Tussauds

Marylebone Rd NW1. **Map** 4 D5. **Tel** 0871 894 3000. **📍 Baker St. Open** 9:30am–5:30pm Mon–Fri, 9am–6pm Sat & Sun (extended hours during peak holiday periods). **Closed** 25 Dec. **📱** phone first. **🌐** madametussauds.com

Madame Tussaud began her wax-modelling career rather morbidly, making death masks of many of the best-known victims of the French Revolution. In 1835 she set up an exhibition of her work in Baker Street, not far from the collection's present site.

The attraction still uses traditional wax-modelling techniques to recreate politicians, royals, actors, rock stars and sporting heroes, the displays changing fairly regularly to keep up with who's in and who's out in the world of modern celebrity.

The exhibition features "A-List Party", where visitors can "attend" a celebrity bash; "Film", devoted to Hollywood legends



Traditional wax-modelling at Madame Tussauds

and film characters such as Marilyn Monroe and ET; and "World Leaders", including Donald Trump, Boris Johnson and Nelson Mandela.

The "Culture" area has the likes of Shakespeare and Picasso, and the "Music Zone" includes Madonna, Rihanna and Lady Gaga. There are also sections dedicated to franchises such as Marvel and Star Wars, with detailed walk-in sets and a 4D Marvel film experience.

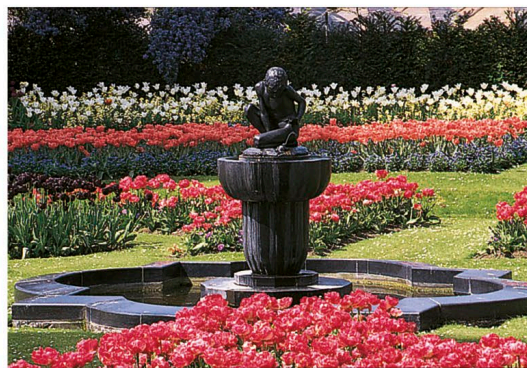
The Chamber of Horrors features gruesome episodes in the grim catalogue of crime and punishment: here visitors can recoil at the murderer Dr Crippen, and experience the chilly gloom of an east London street during Jack the Ripper's time in the late 19th century.

In the "Spirit of London" section visitors travel in stylized London taxi-cabs and participate in momentous events of the city, from the Great Fire of 1666 to 1960s Swinging London.

Ticket prices are fairly steep, but cheaper if you buy online in advance. Opting for timed tickets can help reduce queuing times.



Wax figure of Elizabeth II



Tulip time at Queen Mary's Gardens in Regent's Park

2 Regent's Park

NW1. **Map** 3 C2. **Tel** 0300 061 2300. **📍** Regent's Park, Baker St, Great Portland St. **Open** 5am–dusk daily. **📱** Open air theatre See *Entertainment* pp340–41. Zoo see p231. Sports facilities. **🌐** royalpark.org.uk

This area of land became enclosed as a park in 1812. John Nash designed the scheme and originally envisaged a kind of garden suburb, dotted with 56 villas in a variety of Classical

styles, and a pleasure palace for the Prince Regent. In the event only eight villas – but no palace – were built inside the park (three survive round the edge of the Inner Circle).

The boating lake, which has many varieties of water birds, is marvellously romantic, especially when music drifts across from the bandstand. Queen Mary's Gardens are a mass of wonderful sights and smells in summer, when visitors

can also enjoy a full programme of outdoor theatre, including Shakespeare, musicals and children's plays, at the **Open Air Theatre** nearby.

Nash's master plan for the park continues just beyond its north-eastern edge in Park Village East and West. These elegant stucco buildings date from 1828.

The park is also renowned for its excellent sports facilities.

3 St Marylebone Parish Church

Marylebone Rd NW1. **Map** 4 D5. **Tel** 020 7935 7315. **📍** Regent's Park. **Open** 9am–5pm daily. **📱** 8:30 & 11am Sun. **🌐** stmarylebone.org

This is where the poets Robert Browning and Elizabeth Barrett were married in 1846 after eloping from her strict family home on nearby Wimpole Street. The large, stately church by Thomas Hardwick was built in 1817 after the former church, where Lord Byron was christened in 1778, had become too small. Hardwick

was determined that the same should not happen to his new church – so everything is on a grand scale.



Commemorative window in St Marylebone Parish Church

4 Harley Street

W1. **Map** 4 E5. Regent's Park, Oxford Circus, Bond St, Great Portland St.

The large houses on this late 18th-century street were popular with successful doctors and specialists in the middle of the 19th century, when it was a wealthy residential area. The medical practices stayed and lend the street an air of hushed order, unusual in central London. William Gladstone lived at No. 73 from 1876 to 1882 but there are very few private houses of apartments here now.

5 Portland Place

W1. **Map** 4 E5. Regent's Park, Oxford Circus.

The Adam Brothers, Robert and James, laid this street out in 1773. Only a few of the original houses remain, the best being Nos. 27 to 47 on the west side, south of Devonshire Street. John Nash added the street to his processional route from Carlton House to Regent's Park and sealed its northern end with Park Crescent.

The headquarters of the Royal Institute of British Architects (1934) at No. 66 is adorned with symbolic statues and reliefs. Its bronze front doors depict London's buildings and the River Thames.

6 Broadcasting House

Portland Place W1. **Map** 12 E1.

Oxford Circus. **Open** to TV audience members only. Pre-booking essential, via the website bbc.co.uk/showsandtours/shows.

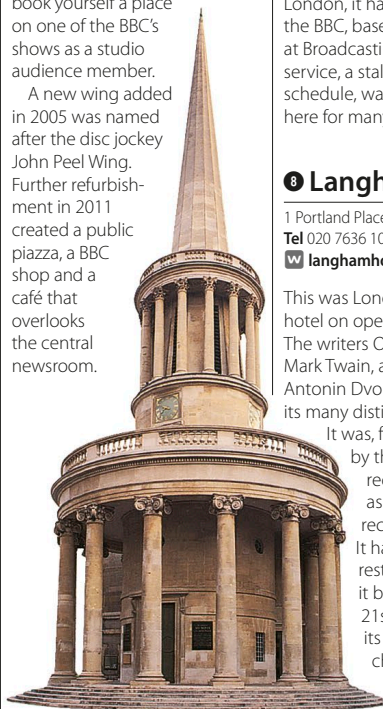
bbc.co.uk

Broadcasting House was built in 1931 as a suitably modern Art Deco setting for the new medium of broadcasting. Its front, curving with the street, is dominated by Eric Gill's stylized relief of Shakespeare's Prospero and Ariel. As the invisible spirit of the air, Ariel was considered an appropriate personification of broadcasting. The character appears in two other sculptures on the western frontage, and again over the eastern entrance in "Ariel Piping to Children".

Broadcasting House is now the London headquarters of BBC news, radio, television and online departments.

The only way to get a look inside the building is to book yourself a place on one of the BBC's shows as a studio audience member.

A new wing added in 2005 was named after the disc jockey John Peel Wing. Further refurbishment in 2011 created a public piazza, a BBC shop and a café that overlooks the central newsroom.



All Souls, Langham Place (1824)



Relief on the Royal Institute of British Architects building, Portland Place

7 All Souls, Langham Place

Langham Place W1. **Map** 12 F1.

Tel 020 7580 3522. Oxford Circus.

Open 9:30am–5:30pm Mon–Fri, 9am–3pm & 5:30–8:30pm Sun.

9:30am, 11:30am, 6:30pm Sun.

allsouls.org

John Nash designed this church in 1824. Its quirky round frontage is best seen from Regent Street. When it was first built, the spire was ridiculed as it appeared too slender and flimsy.

The only Nash church in London, it had close links with the BBC, based across the street at Broadcasting House; the daily service, a stalwart of the radio schedule, was broadcast from here for many years.

8 Langham Hotel

1 Portland Place W1. **Map** 12 E1.

Tel 020 7636 1000. Oxford Circus.

langhamhotels.com

This was London's grandest hotel on opening in 1865. The writers Oscar Wilde and Mark Twain, and composer Antonín Dvořák were among its many distinguished guests.

It was, for a time, used by the BBC as a record library and as a venue for recording shows. It has since been restored, bringing it boldly into the 21st century with its luxurious rooms, chic Artesian bar and fine-dining restaurant, Roux at the Landau.

9 Wigmore Hall

36 Wigmore St W1. **Map** 12 E1. **Tel** 020 7258 8200. Box Office: **Tel** 020 7935 2141. Bond St, Oxford Circus
 See *Entertainment* p345.
wigmore-hall.org.uk

This appealing little concert hall for chamber music was designed by T E Collcutt, architect of the Savoy hotel, in 1900. At first it was called Bechstein Hall because it was attached to the Bechstein piano showroom; the area used to be the heart of London's piano trade. Opposite is the Art Nouveau emporium built in 1907 as Debenham and Freebody's department store – now Debenham's is on Oxford Street.

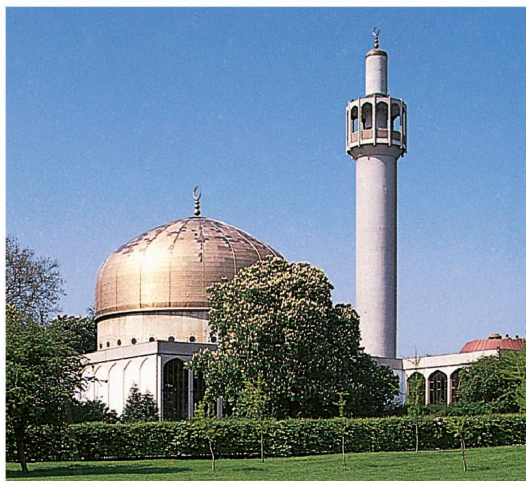


Late 18th-century Sèvres porcelain vase, Wallace Collection

10 Wallace Collection

Hertford House, Manchester Sq W1. **Map** 12 D1. **Tel** 020 7563 9500.
 Bond St, Baker St. **Open** 10am–5pm daily. **Closed** 24–26 Dec.
 Lectures. **wallacecollection.org**

This is one of the world's finest private collections of art. It has remained intact since it was bequeathed to the government in 1897 with the stipulation that it should go on permanent public display with nothing added or removed. The product of passionate collecting for four generations of the Hertford



The Mosque on the edge of Regent's Park

family, it is a must for anyone with even a passing interest in the progress of European art up to the late 19th century. The house itself is magnificent, with dozens of rooms, including the superb great gallery, rich with period detail.

Among the 70 masterworks are Frans Hals's *The Laughing Cavalier*, Titian's *Perseus and Andromeda* and Rembrandt's *Titus*. There are superb portraits by Reynolds, Gainsborough and Romney. Other highlights include Sèvres porcelain and sculpture by Houdon and Roubiliac. The fine European and Oriental armour collection is the second largest in the UK.

11 Sherlock Holmes Museum

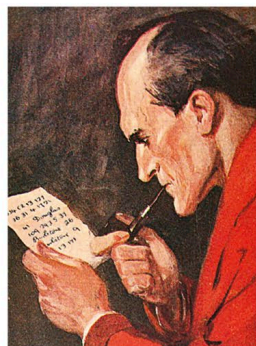
221b Baker St NW1. **Map** 3 C4. **Tel** 020 7224 3688. Baker St. **Open** 9:30am–6pm daily. **Closed** 25 Dec.
sherlock-holmes.co.uk

Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's fictional detective lived at 221b Baker Street. This building, dating from 1815, has been converted to resemble Holmes's flat, and is furnished exactly as described in the books. Visitors are greeted by Holmes's "housekeeper" and shown to his recreated rooms on the first floor. The shop sells souvenirs including short stories and deerstalker hats.

12 London Central Mosque

146 Park Rd NW8. **Map** 3 B3. **Tel** 020 7724 3363. Marylebone, St John's Wood, Baker St. **Open** dawn–dusk daily. Lectures. **iccuk.org**

Surrounded by trees on the edge of Regent's Park, this large, golden-domed mosque was designed by Sir Frederick Gibberd and completed in 1978. Built to cater for the increasing number of Muslim residents in and visitors to London, the mosque is capable of holding 1,800 worshippers. The main hall of worship is a plain square chamber with a domed roof and a magnificent carpet. Visitors must remove their shoes before entering the mosque, and women should remember to cover their heads.



Conan Doyle's Sherlock Holmes



A boat trip on Regent's Canal

13 Regent's Canal

NW1 & NW8. **Map** 3 C1. **Tel** 020 7482 2660 (waterbus). Camden Town, St John's Wood, Warwick Ave. Canal towpaths: **Open** dawn–dusk daily. See *Six Guided Walks* pp270–71.

londonwaterbus.com

John Nash was extremely enthusiastic about this waterway, opened in 1820 to link the Grand Junction Canal, which ended at Little Venice in Paddington in the west, with the London docks at Limehouse in the east. He originally wanted the canal to run through the middle of his new Regent's Park, but was dissuaded by those who thought that the bargees' bad language would offend the genteel residents of the area. Perhaps this was just as well – the steam tugs that hauled the barges were dirty and sometimes dangerous. In 1874, a barge carrying gunpowder

blew up in the cutting by London Zoo, killing the crew, destroying a bridge, and terrifying the populace and the animals. After an initial period of prosperity for the canal, increasing competition from new railways saw it gradually slip into decline.

Today it has been revived as a leisure amenity; the towpath is a pleasant walkway and boat trips run between Little Venice and Camden Lock, with its huge crafts market. Visitors to the zoo can use the landing stage in the grounds.

14 London Zoo

Regent's Park NW1. **Map** 4 D2.

Tel 0344 225 1826. Camden Town.

Open Apr–Aug: 10am–6pm; Sep–Oct: 10am–5:30pm; Nov–Mar: 10am–4pm (last adm: 1 hr before closing).

Closed 25 Dec.

zsl.org

Opened in 1828, London Zoo is one of London's biggest tourist attractions, and a major research and conservation centre. The zoo has over 600 species of animal, from Sumatran tigers – whose number increased with the birth of two cubs in June 2016 – to bird-eating spiders. Exhibits include Penguin Beach; a gorilla kingdom; "meet the monkeys" where you can walk among



London Zoo's aviary, designed by Lord Snowdon (1964)

spider monkeys; a humid rainforest enclosure with sloths and anteaters; a lemur walk-through area; and an expanded home for the lions. Look out for feeding times for the day.

15 Cumberland Terrace

NW1. **Map** 4 E2. Great Portland St, Regent's Park, Camden Town.

James Thomson is credited with the detailed design of this, the longest and most elaborate of the Nash terraces around Regent's Park. Its imposing central block of raised Ionic columns is topped with a decorated triangular pediment. Completed in 1828, it was designed to be visible from the palace Nash planned for the Prince Regent (later George IV). The palace was never built because the Prince was too busy with his plans for Buckingham Palace (see pp98–9).



Nash's Cumberland Terrace, dating from 1828



HAMPSTEAD AND HIGHGATE

Two rather exclusive north London neighbourhoods, set apart from the hurly-burly of the modern city, Highgate and Hampstead sit on either side of the vast, bucolic Hampstead Heath, arguably London's finest green space. Both have long been settlements – Hampstead is mentioned as far back as the 10th century – and both became fashionable retreats from the city, becoming essentially Georgian villages. There has been a settlement in Highgate since at least the early Middle Ages, when an

important staging post on the Great North Road from London was established, with a gate to control access. Both also have illustrious literary and artistic connections, though Hampstead's have the edge, with the likes of John Keats having set up home there. But while they lived in Hampstead, many of the city's intellectuals are buried in Highgate's cemetery – not least Karl Marx, who is buried in the East Cemetery, though it is the West Cemetery that is the more atmospheric.

Sights at a Glance

Historic Streets and Buildings

- 1 Flask Walk and Well Walk
- 4 Church Row
- 5 Downshire Hill
- 13 Vale of Health

Museums and Galleries

- 2 Burgh House
- 3 Fenton House
- 6 Keats House
- 10 Kenwood House

Parks and Gardens

- 8 Hampstead Heath
- 9 Parliament Hill
- 12 The Hill Garden

Pubs and Bars

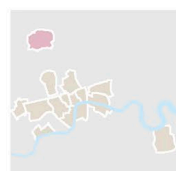
- 11 Spaniards Inn

Cemeteries

- 7 Highgate Cemetery

☐ Restaurants *see pp305–7*

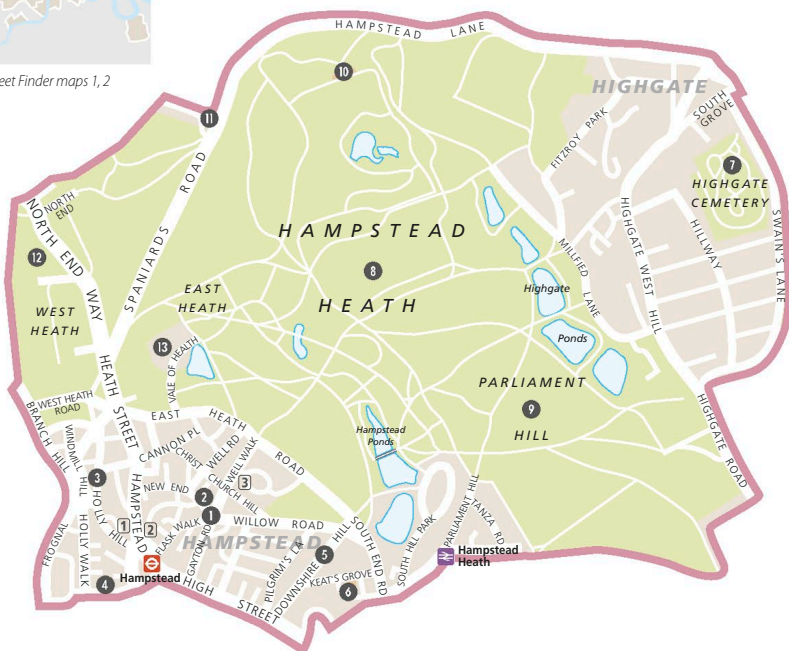
- 1 Jin-Kichi
- 2 Gaucho
- 3 The Wells



Street Finder maps 1, 2

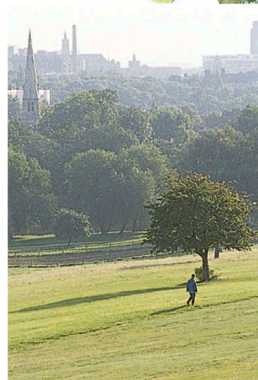


0 metres 500
0 yards 500



Street-by-Street: Hampstead

Perched awkwardly on a hilltop, with its broad heath to the north, Hampstead has kept its village atmosphere and sense of being outside the city. This has attracted artists and writers since Georgian times and has made it one of London's most desirable residential areas. Its mansions and town houses are perfectly maintained and a stroll through Hampstead's narrow streets is one of London's quieter pleasures.



8 ★ Hampstead Heath

A welcome retreat from the city, its broad open spaces include bathing ponds, meadows and lakes.

Whitestone Pond

takes its name from the old white milestone nearby. It is 7 km (4.5 miles) from Holborn (see pp136–45).



Key

— Suggested route

0 metres 100
0 yards 100



Old Bull and Bush

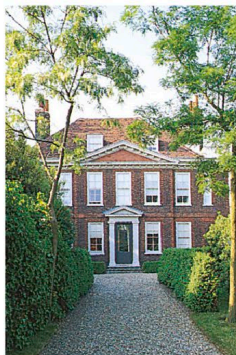
This pub on the edge of the Heath was a former haunt for writers and artists.

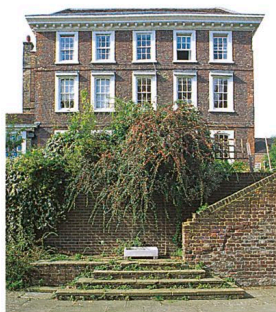
Grove Lodge was home to novelist John Galsworthy (1867–1933), author of *The Forsyte Saga*, for the last 15 years of his life.

Admiral's House dates from about 1700. Built for a sea captain, its name derives from its external maritime motifs. No admiral ever actually lived in it.

3 ★ Fenton House

Summer visitors should seek out this late 17th-century house and its exquisite walled garden, which are well hidden in the jumble of streets near the Heath.





2 ★ Burgh House

Built in 1702 but much altered since, the house contains an intriguing local history museum and a café overlooking the small garden.

Golders
Green

HAMPSTEAD
& HIGHGATE

Gospel Oak

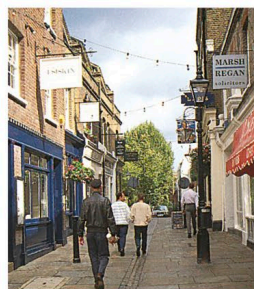
Locator Map

See Central London Map pp16–17



No. 40 Well Walk

is where artist John Constable lived while working on his many Hampstead pictures.



1 Flask Walk and Well Walk

An alley of charming specialist shops broadens into a residential village street.

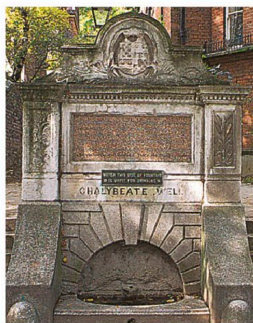
Hampstead station



4 ★ Church Row

The tall houses are rich in original detail. Notice the superb ironwork on what is probably London's finest Georgian street.

The Everyman Cinema has been an arthouse cinema since 1933.



Site of the well on Well Walk that provided Hampstead with its spa waters

1 Flask Walk and Well Walk

NW3. **Map** 1 B5. Hampstead.

Flask Walk is named after the Flask pub. Here, in the 18th century, the area's therapeutic spa water was put into flasks and sold to visitors or sent to London. The water, rich in iron salts, came from nearby Well Walk, where a disused fountain now marks the site of the well. The Wells Tavern, almost opposite the spring, was a hostelry that accommodated those who engaged in the illicit liaisons for which the spa became notorious.

There have been many notable residents of Well Walk, including artist John Constable (at No. 40), novelists D H Lawrence and J B Priestley, and the poet John Keats, before he moved to what is now Keats Grove (*see facing page*). At the High Street end, Flask Walk is narrow and lined with old shops. Beyond the Flask pub (note the Victorian tiled panels outside) it broadens into a row of Regency houses, one of which used to belong to the novelist Kingsley Amis.

2 Burgh House

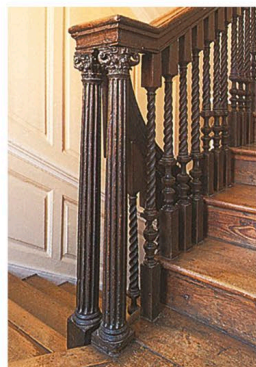
New End Sq NW3. **Map** 1 B4. **Tel** 020 7431 0144. Hampstead. **Open** noon–5pm Wed–Fri & Sun. **Café:** 11am–5pm Wed–Fri, 9.30am–5.30pm Sat & Sun **Closed** Christmas week.
 Music recitals.
burghhouse.org.uk

The last private tenant of Burgh House was the son-in-law of the

writer Rudyard Kipling, who visited here occasionally in the last years of his life until 1936. After a period under the ownership of Hampstead Borough Council, the house was let to the independent Burgh House Trust. Since 1979, the Trust has run it as the Hampstead Museum, which illustrates the history of the area and concentrates on some of its most celebrated residents.

The museum owns a significant art collection, including works by the Bloomsbury Group painter Duncan Grant, along with furniture and archive material on the area. There is a display about Hampstead as a spa in the 18th and 19th centuries and exhibitions by contemporary local artists are often displayed in the ground-floor gallery.

The house itself was built in 1703 but is named after a 19th-century resident, the Reverend Allatson Burgh. It has been much altered inside, and today the marvellously carved staircase is a highlight of the interior. Also worth seeing is the music room, which was reconstructed in 1920 but contains 18th-century panelling from another house. In the 1720s, Dr William Gibbons, chief physician to the then thriving Hampstead spa, lived here.



Burgh House staircase

3 Fenton House

20 Hampstead Grove NW3. **Map** 1 A4. **Tel** 020 7435 3471. Hampstead. **Open** Mar–Oct: 11am–5pm Wed–Sun & public hols. ground floor only. nationaltrust.org.uk/fentonhouse

Built in 1686, this splendid William and Mary house is the oldest mansion in Hampstead. It contains several specialist exhibitions that are open to the public during the summer: the Benton-Fletcher collection of early keyboard instruments, which includes a harpsichord dating from 1612, said to have been played by Handel; and a fine collection of porcelain. The instruments are kept in full working order and are used



Fenton House's 17th-century façade



Personal items belonging to the poet John Keats can be seen at his former home

for concerts held in the house. The porcelain collection was largely accumulated by Lady Binning who, in 1952, bequeathed the house and its contents to the National Trust.

4 Church Row

NW3. **Map** 1 A5. Hampstead.

Church Row is one of the most complete Georgian streets in London. Much of its original detail has survived, notably the ironwork.

At the west end is St John's, Hampstead's parish church, built in 1745. The iron gates are earlier and come from Canons Park in Edgware. Inside the church is a bust of John Keats. John Constable's grave is in the churchyard, and many Hampstead luminaries are buried in the adjoining cemetery.

5 Downshire Hill

NW3. **Map** 1 C5. Hampstead.

A beautiful street of mainly Regency houses, Downshire Hill lent its name to a group of artists, including Stanley Spencer and Mark Gertler, who would gather at No. 47 between the two World Wars. The same house had been the meeting place of Pre-Raphaelite artists, among them Dante Gabriel Rossetti and Edward Burne-Jones. A more recent resident, at No. 5,

was the late Jim Henson, the creator of *The Muppets*.

The church on the corner (the second Hampstead church to be called St John's) was built in 1823 to serve the Hill's residents. Inside, it still has its original box pews.

6 Keats House

Keats Grove NW3. **Map** 1 C5. **Tel** 020 7332 3868. Hampstead, Belsize Park, Hampstead Heath Overground. **Open** Mar–Oct: 11am–5pm Wed–Sun; Nov–Feb: 11am–5pm Fri–Sun. **Closed** Christmas week. garden free. 3pm when house is open. ground floor only. Poetry readings, lectures. **W** cityoflondon.gov.uk/keats

Originally two semi-detached houses built in 1816, the smaller one became Keats' home in 1818, when a friend persuaded him to move in. Keats spent two productive years here: *Ode to a Nightingale*, perhaps his most celebrated poem, was said to have been written under a plum tree in the garden. The Brawne family moved into the larger house a year later and Keats became engaged to their daughter, Fanny. However, the marriage never took place: Keats died of consumption in Rome before two years had passed. He was only 25 years old.

A copy of one of Keats' love letters to Fanny, the engagement ring he offered her and a lock of her hair are among the mementos that are exhibited at

the house, which was first opened to the public in 1925. Visitors are also able to see facsimiles of some of Keats' manuscripts, part of a collection that serves as an evocative and memorable tribute to his life and work.

7 Highgate Cemetery

Swain's Lane N6. **Tel** 020 8340 1834.

Archway. Eastern Cemetery:

Open 10am–5pm Mon–Fri, 11am–5pm Sat & Sun (closes 4pm daily Nov–Feb). check website for times. Western Cemetery: **Open** for tours only: 1:45pm Mon–Fri (advance booking essential), half-hourly 11am–3pm Sat & Sun (no advance booking at weekends; tickets on sale from 11am). No children admitted under 8 years. **Closed** 25 & 26 Dec & during funerals (phone to check).

Eastern only.

W highgatecemetery.org

This Victorian gem, a Grade I-listed site, is divided into two parts. The western section opened in 1839. For many years it lay neglected, until a voluntary group, the Friends of Highgate Cemetery, prevented further decline. They have restored the Egyptian Avenue, a street of family vaults styled on ancient Egyptian tombs, and the Circle of Lebanon, more vaults in a ring, topped by a cedar tree.

In the eastern section lie Karl Marx, Herbert Spencer and novelist George Eliot (real name, Mary Anne Evans).



Graves at Highgate Cemetery



People relaxing in the open space of Hampstead Heath

8 Hampstead Heath

NW3. **Map** 1 C2. **Tel** 020 7332 3322.

📍 Belsize Park, Hampstead.

Open 24 hrs daily. Special walks on Sundays. 📞 phone for disability buggies: 020 7485 5757. 🎵 Concerts, some children's activities in summer. Sports facilities, bathing ponds. Sports bookings **Tel** 020 7332 3773.

🌐 cityoflondon.gov.uk

Separating the hilltop villages of Hampstead and Highgate, the Heath embraces a variety of landscapes – woods, meadows, hills, ponds and lakes – which attract a wealth of wildlife, including bats and up to 180 species of birds. It covers an

area of 3 sq miles (8 sq km) and remains uncluttered by the haphazard buildings and statues that embellish the central London parks. Despite attempts by local landowners to encroach on the heath in the 19th century, it was protected as public space in 1871. It is now owned by the Corporation of London and its open spaces have become increasingly precious to Londoners. There are ponds for bathing and fishing and, on three holiday weekends – Easter, late spring and late summer – the southern part of the Heath is taken over by a funfair (see pp60–63).

9 Parliament Hill

NW5. **Map** 2 E4. **Tel** 020 7332 3773.

📍 Belsize Park, Hampstead. 📞

Concerts, children's activities in summer. Sporting facilities. 📺

An unlikely but romantic explanation for the area's name is that it is where Guy Fawkes' fellow plotters gathered on 5 November 1605 in the vain hope of watching the Houses of Parliament blow up after they had planted gunpowder there (see p26). More probably it was a gun emplacement for the Parliamentary side during the Civil War 40 years later. The gunners would have enjoyed a

10 Kenwood House

Hampstead Lane NW3. **Map** 1 C1.

Tel 020 8348 1286. 📍 Golders Green, Archway, then 210 bus. Estate:

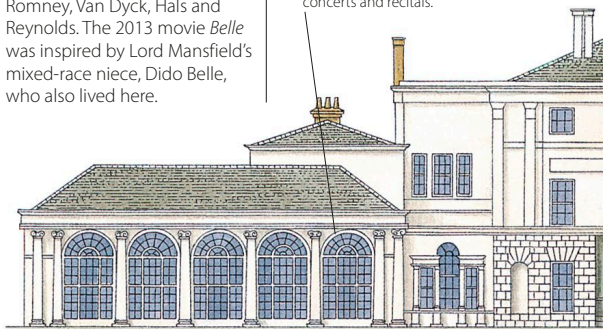
Open 10am–5pm daily. **Closed** 1 Jan, 24–26 & 31 Dec. 📺 selected Fridays.

📺 📺 ground floor. 📺 📺 Regular events. 🌐 english-heritage.org.uk

This magnificent mansion, filled with old master paintings, is situated in landscaped grounds high on the edge of Hampstead Heath. There has been a house here since 1616 – the present one was remodelled by Robert Adam in 1764 for the Earl of Mansfield. Adam refitted existing rooms and added to the original building. Most of his

work has survived, the highlight being the library. A Rembrandt self-portrait is the star attraction of the collection, and there are also works by Vermeer, Turner, Romney, Van Dyck, Hals and Reynolds. The 2013 movie *Belle* was inspired by Lord Mansfield's mixed-race niece, Dido Belle, who also lived here.

The orangery is now used for occasional concerts and recitals.



broad view across London; even today, when tall buildings intervene, it provides one of the most spectacular views over the capital. From here the dome of St Paul's is prominent. Parliament Hill is also a popular place for flying kites and sailing model boats on the boating pond.



The historic Spaniards Inn

11 Spaniards Inn

Spaniards Rd NW3. **Map** 1 B1.

Tel 020 8731 8406. **📍** Hampstead, East Finchley. **Open** noon–11pm

Mon–Sat, noon–10:30pm Sun. **♿**

w thespaniardshampstead.co.uk

Dick Turpin, the notorious 18th-century highwayman, is said to have frequented this pub. When he wasn't holding up stagecoaches on their way to and from London, he stabled his horse, Black Bess, at the Kenwood stables. The building certainly dates from Turpin's time and, although the bar

downstairs has been altered frequently, the small upstairs Turpin Bar is original. A pair of guns over the bar were reputedly taken from anti-Catholic rioters, who came to Hampstead to burn the Lord Chancellor's house at Kenwood during the Gordon Riots of 1780. The landlord detained them by offering pint after pint of free beer, and when they were drunk, disarmed them.

Among the pub's noted patrons have been the poets Shelley, Keats and Byron, the actor David Garrick and the artist Sir Joshua Reynolds.

The tollhouse has been restored; it juts into the road so that, in the days when tolls were levied, traffic could not race past without paying.

12 The Hill Garden

North End Way NW3. **Map** 1 A2.

📍 Hampstead, Golders Green.

Open dawn to dusk daily.

This charming garden was created by Edwardian soap manufacturer and patron of the arts Lord Leverhulme. It was originally the grounds to his house and is now part of Hampstead Heath. It boasts a raised pergola walkway, best seen in summer when the plants are in flower; the garden also has a beautiful formal pond.



Pergola walk at the Hill Garden

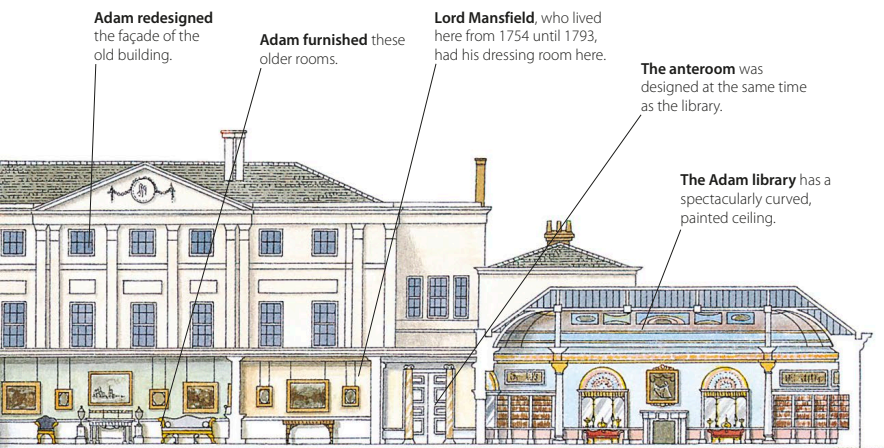
13 Vale of Health

NW3. **Map** 1 B3. **📍** Hampstead.

This area was famous as a distinctly unhealthy swamp before it was drained in 1770; until then it was known as Hatches Bottom. Its newer name may derive from people fleeing here from cholera in London at the end of the 18th century. Alternatively, the name could have been the hype of a property developer when it was first recorded in 1801.

The poet James Henry Leigh Hunt put it on the literary map when he moved here in 1815 and played host to Coleridge, Byron, Shelley and Keats.

D H Lawrence lived here briefly and Stanley Spencer painted in a room above the Vale of Health Hotel, which was demolished in 1964.





GREENWICH AND BLACKHEATH

Best known as the place from which the world's time is measured, Greenwich marks the historic eastern approach to London by land and water. The centre of Greenwich has a village feel, with

charming shops and markets to discover. Exploring the Maritime Museum, the Queen's House, Royal Observatory, *Cutty Sark* and Old Royal Naval College can easily occupy a full day.

Sights at a Glance

Historic Streets and Buildings

- 2 The Queen's House
- 7 Old Royal Naval College
- 9 Royal Observatory Greenwich
- 12 Croom's Hill

Museums

- 1 National Maritime Museum
- 4 Ranger's House – The Wernher Collection
- 5 *Cutty Sark*
- 13 The Fan Museum

Churches

- 3 St Alfege Church

Parks and Gardens

- 10 Greenwich Park
- 11 Blackheath

Walkway

- 6 Greenwich Foot Tunnel

Historic Pubs

- 8 Trafalgar Tavern

☐ Restaurants *see pp305–7*

- 1 The Greenwich Union

0 metres 500
0 yards 500



Street Finder maps 23, 24

Street-by-Street: Greenwich

This historic town, with illustrious royal and naval connections, is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. In Tudor times it was the site of a palace much enjoyed by Henry VIII, near a fine hunting ground. The old palace is gone, leaving Inigo Jones's exquisite Queen's House, built for James I's wife. Museums, shops, cafés and markets, Wren's architecture and the magnificent Royal Park all make Greenwich an enjoyable day's excursion and it is best visited by river (*see pp64–5*).



5 Cutty Sark

Clipper ships such as this once traded across the oceans. The impressively restored *Cutty Sark* has been raised to allow visitors to explore above and below decks.



Greenwich Market

This market, in the heart of Greenwich, sells crafts, antiques and books.

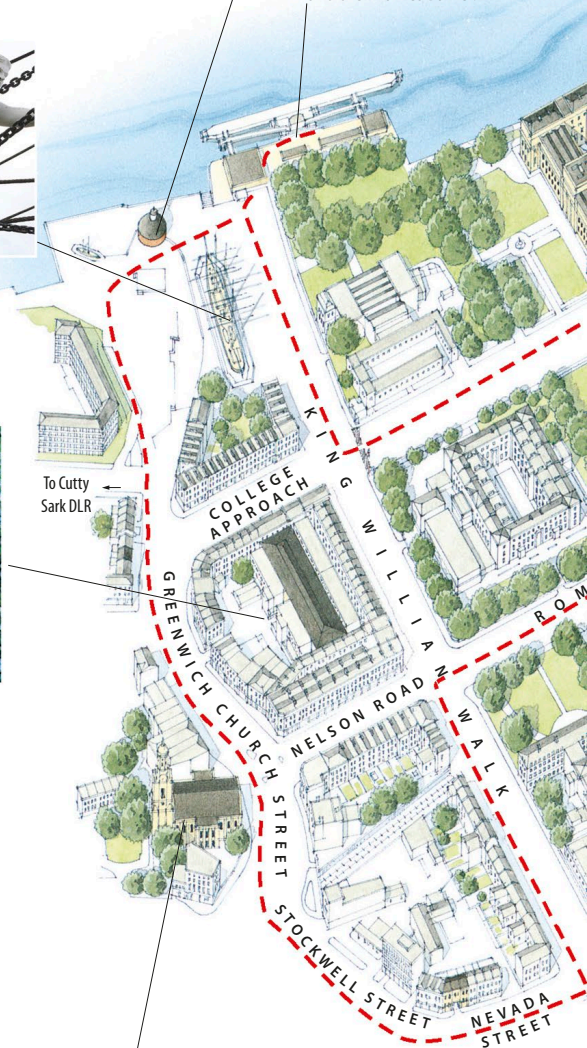


3 St Alfege Church

There has been a church here since 1012.

6 Greenwich Foot Tunnel, leading to the Isle of Dogs under the Thames, is one of two tunnels built solely for pedestrians.

Greenwich Pier is a boarding point for boats to Westminster, the O2 and the Thames Barrier.





Locator Map

See Greater London Map pp14–15

7 ★ Old Royal Naval College

Wren's stately structure was built in two halves so that the Queen's House would keep its river view.

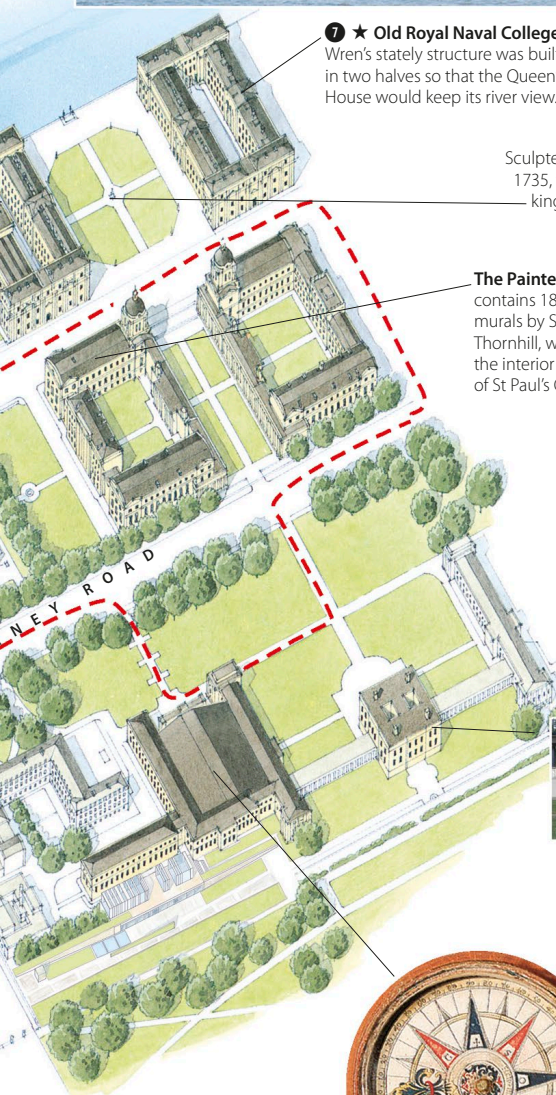
George II Statue

Sculpted by John Rysbrack in 1735, this statue depicts the king as a Roman emperor.



The Painted Hall

contains 18th-century murals by Sir James Thornhill, who painted the interior of the dome of St Paul's Cathedral.



1 National Maritime Museum

Real and model boats, paintings and instruments such as this 18th-century compass illustrate naval history.



2 ★ The Queen's House

On his return from Italy, this was the first building Inigo Jones designed in the Palladian style.

Key

— Suggested route

0 metres 100
0 yards 100

1 National Maritime Museum

Romney Rd SE10. **Map** 23 C2. **Tel** 020 8858 4422. Cutty Sark DLR.

Greenwich. **Open** 10am–5pm daily (ground floor till 6pm Jul–Aug).

Closed 24–26 Dec. special exhibitions. Lectures.

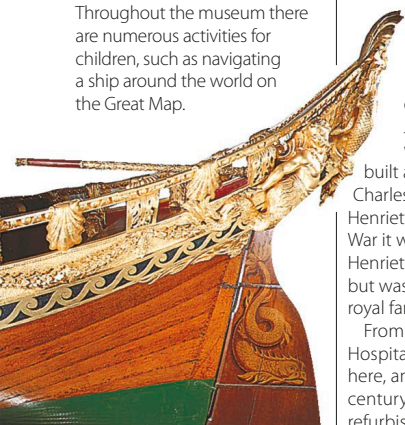
rmg.co.uk

The sea has always played an important role in British history, and this museum – built in the 19th century as a school for sailors' children – celebrates this seafaring heritage, from early British trade and empire to the expeditions of Captain Cook, and from the Napoleonic Wars through to the modern day.

The Sammy Ofer wing, the biggest development in the museum's history, boasts "the Wave", a 20-m (65-ft) audiovisual installation in which images and films from the museum's vast archives unfold in dramatic, thematic journeys.

The Nelson gallery looks at the course of British maritime history over the tumultuous 18th century, a period when seafaring heroes were national celebrities. A star exhibit is the uniform that Lord Horatio Nelson was wearing when he was shot at the Battle of Trafalgar in October 1805.

Rather more spectacular is the royal barge built for Prince Frederick in 1732, decorated with gilded mermaids and his Prince of Wales's feathers on the stern. Throughout the museum there are numerous activities for children, such as navigating a ship around the world on the Great Map.



Prince Frederick's barge at the National Maritime Museum



The Canary Wharf skyline, with The Queen's House in the foreground

2 The Queen's House

Romney Rd SE10. **Map** 23 C2.

Tel 020 8858 4422. Cutty Sark DLR.

Greenwich. **Open** 10am–5pm daily. **Closed** 24–26 Dec.

rmg.co.uk

The Queen's House was designed by Inigo Jones and completed in 1637. It was originally intended to be the home of Anne of Denmark, wife of James I, but she died while it was still being built and it was finished for Charles I's queen consort, Henrietta Maria. After the Civil War it was briefly occupied by Henrietta as dowager queen, but was not much used by the royal family after that.

From 1821 to 1933 the Royal Hospital School was housed here, and in the late 20th century the building was refurbished. Period highlights include the square Great Hall, the King's and Queen's

Presence Chambers and the spiral cantilevered "tulip staircase", which curves sinuously upwards without a central support. The house focuses on the art collection of the National Maritime Museum. Following refurbishment in 2016, the Queen's House features Turner Prize-winner Richard Wright's gold leaf art installation on the ceiling of the Great Hall.

3 St Alfege Church

Greenwich Church St SE10. **Map** 23 B2.

Tel 020 8853 0687. Cutty Sark DLR.

Open 11am–4pm Mon–Fri, 10am–4pm Sat, noon–4pm Sun. 5:30pm Tue & Wed, 8am Thu & Sun, 9:30am Sat, 10am Sun if accompanied.

Concerts. st-alfego.org

This is one of Nicholas Hawksmoor's most distinctive and powerful designs, with its gigantic columns and pediments topped by urns. It was completed in 1714 on the site of an older

church, which marked the martyrdom of St Alfege, the then Archbishop of Canterbury, killed on this spot by Danish invaders in 1012. A second church here was the site of Henry VIII's baptism in 1491 and of 16th-century composer and organist Thomas Tallis's burial in 1585. Today a stained-glass window commemorates Tallis.

Some of the carved wood inside is by Grinling Gibbons, but much of it was badly damaged by a World War II bomb and has been restored. The wrought iron of the altar and gallery rails is original, attributed to Jean Tijou.

4 Ranger's House – the Wernher Collection

Chesterfield Walk, Greenwich Park SE10. **Map** 23 C4. **Tel** 020 8294 2548.

📍 Cutty Sark DLR. 🚶 Blackheath.

Open by guided tour only. 📱 📺

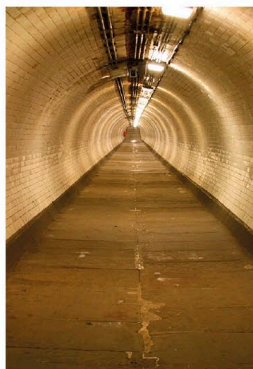
Apr–Sep: 11am & 2pm Sun–Wed (booking advised) 📅 📱

🌐 english-heritage.org.uk

The Wernher Collection is located in Ranger's House (1688), an elegant building southeast of Greenwich Park (see p247). It is an enchanting array of over 650 pieces accumulated by South African mine owner Sir Julius Wernher in the late 19th century. The collection is displayed in 12 rooms and includes paintings, jewellery, furniture and porcelain. Highlights include Renaissance masterworks by Hans Memling and Filippo Lippi, over 100 Renaissance jewels, and an opal-set lizard pendant jewel. The tour ends with the magnificent sculpture of a woman and angel by Bergonzoli.



Opal-set lizard pendant at the Wernher Collection



The Greenwich Foot Tunnel is lined with 200,000 ceramic tiles

5 Cutty Sark

King William Walk SE10. **Map** 23 B2.

Tel 020 8858 4422. 📍 Cutty Sark DLR.

📍 Greenwich Pier. **Open** 10am–5pm daily (last adm: 4:30pm). **Closed** 24–26 Dec.

📱 **Tel** 020 8312 6608. 📺 📱

📅 book ahead. 🌐 rmg.co.uk

This majestic vessel is a survivor of the clippers that crossed the Atlantic and Pacific oceans in the 19th century. Launched in 1869 as a tea carrier, it was something of a speed machine in its day, winning the annual clippers' race from China to London in 1871 in just 107 days. It made its final voyage in 1938 and was put on display here in 1957. In 2006 the *Cutty Sark* was closed to visitors for renovation work, which suffered a major setback in May 2007 when the ship was severely damaged by fire. It was reopened by the Queen in spring 2012, fully restored and slightly raised in a glass enclosure. You can explore the cargo decks and sleeping quarters below deck. There are interactive displays on navigation and life on board.

6 Greenwich Foot Tunnel

Between Greenwich Pier SE10 and Isle of Dogs E14. **Map** 23 B1.

📍 Island Gardens, Cutty Sark DLR.

📍 Greenwich Pier. **Open** 24hrs daily.

📅 when lifts operating.

This 370-m (1,200-ft) long tunnel was opened in 1902 to allow south London

labourers to walk to work in Millwall Docks. Today it is worth crossing for the wonderful views, back across the river, of Christopher Wren's Royal Naval College and of Inigo Jones's Queen's House.

Matching round red-brick terminals, with glass domes, mark the top of the lift shafts on either side of the river. Both ends of the tunnel are close to stations on the Docklands Light Railway (DLR), with trains to Canary Wharf (see p253), Limehouse, East London, Tower Hill and Lewisham. Although there are security cameras, the tunnel can be eerie at night.



A late 19th-century figurehead in the *Cutty Sark*

7 Old Royal Naval College

King William Walk SE10. **Map** 23 C2. **Tel** 020 8269 4799. Cutty Sark DLR, Greenwich DLR. Greenwich, Maze Hill, Chapel, Hall and Discover Greenwich visitor centre: **Open** 10am–5pm daily (Aug & early Sep until 6pm). **Closed** 24–26 Dec & some Sat. Grounds: **Open** 8am–11pm daily. Chapel: 6:30pm Mon, 1:05pm Wed, 11am Sun. talks in Painted Hall 11:45am, 12:45pm, 2:45pm & 3:45pm daily, guided walks daily from visitor centre. omc.org

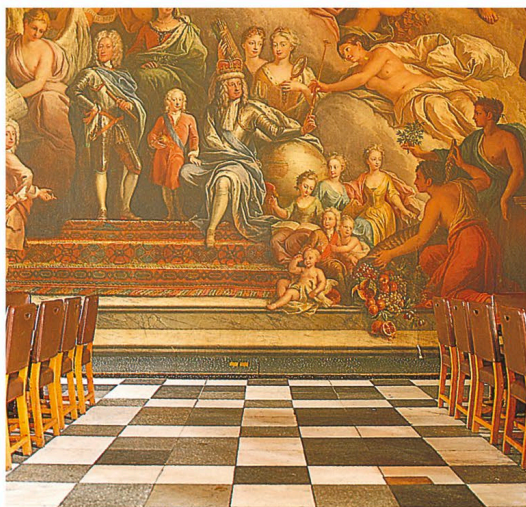
These ambitious buildings by Christopher Wren were built on the site of the old 15th-century royal palace, where Henry VIII, Mary I and Elizabeth I were born. The west front was completed by Vanbrugh. The Painted Hall, Chapel, Discover Greenwich Visitor Centre – with displays on the history of the area and its buildings – and grounds are open to the public.

Wren's Chapel was destroyed by fire in 1779. The present Greek Revival interior, by James Stuart, is light and airy. The Painted Hall was opulently decorated by Sir James Thornhill in the early 18th century. The huge ceiling painting is the largest figurative painting in the country.

8 Trafalgar Tavern

Park Row SE10. **Map** 23 C1. **Tel** 020 8858 2909. Cutty Sark DLR, Greenwich DLR. **Open** noon–11pm Mon–Thu, noon–midnight Fri, 10am–midnight Sat, 10am–11pm Sun. See Pubs and Bars pp312–15. trafalgartavern.co.uk

This charming panelled pub was built in 1837 and quickly



Thornhill's painting of King William III in the Painted Hall of the Old Royal Naval College

became established, along with other waterside inns in Greenwich, as a venue for “whitebait dinners”. Government ministers, legal luminaries and the like would arrive from Westminster and Charing Cross by water on celebratory occasions and feast on the tiny fish. The last such meeting was held here in 1885. Whitebait still features on the pub restaurant's menu, when in season, although they are no longer fished from the Thames.

This was another of Charles Dickens's haunts. He drank here with one of the best-known illustrators of his works, George Cruickshank.

In 1915, the pub became an institution for old merchant seamen. It was restored in 1965 after a spell of being used as a social club for working men.

9 Royal Observatory Greenwich

Greenwich Park SE10. **Map** 23 C3. **Tel** 020 8858 4422. Cutty Sark DLR. Greenwich. **Open** 10am–5pm daily (late Jul–Aug until 6pm; last adm: 30 min before closing). **Closed** 24–26 Dec. for Flamsteed House and Planetarium shows (last show 4pm). rmg.co.uk

The meridian (0° longitude) that divides the Earth's eastern and western hemispheres passes through here, and millions of visitors have been photographed standing with a foot on either side of it. In 1884, Greenwich Mean Time became the basis of time measurement for most of the world. Here you can journey through the history of time, explore how scientists first mapped the stars and see world-changing inventions, including the UK's largest refracting telescope. Visitors can even touch a 4.5 billion-year-old asteroid.

The original building, Flamsteed House, was designed by Christopher Wren and it contains a display of original instruments belonging to several Astronomers Royal, such as Edmond Halley. John Flamsteed was the first Astronomer Royal, appointed by Charles II, and this was the official government observatory from 1675 until 1948, when the lights of London



Trafalgar Tavern viewed from the Thames

became too bright and the astronomers moved to darker Sussex. There is also a state-of-the-art planetarium here, the only one in London, and free exhibits on space exploration and the Big Bang in the Astronomy Centre in the south building.



A rare 24-hour clock at the Royal Observatory Greenwich

10 Greenwich Park

SE10. **Map** 23 C3. **Tel** 0300 061 2380.
 🚶 Cutty Sark DLR, Greenwich DLR.
 🚶 Greenwich, Maze Hill, Blackheath.
Open from 6am until 6pm–9:30pm depending on season. 🚶 🚶
 Children's shows, playground, boating lake and sports facilities.
 🌐 royalparks.org.uk

Originally the grounds of a royal palace and still a Royal Park, Greenwich Park was enclosed in 1433 and its brick wall built in the reign of James I. Later, in the 17th century, the French royal landscape gardener André Le Nôtre, of Versailles and Fontainebleau fame, was invited to redesign the park. The broad avenue, rising south up the hill, was part of his plan.

There are great river views from the hilltop and on a fine day, most of London can be seen. In 2012, the

park hosted the London Olympic equestrian events.

To the south of the park, on the edge of the park's rose garden, is the Ranger's House (1688), which now houses the art collection of Julius Wernher (see p245). From here the walk to the charming village of Blackheath is flat, compared with the steep walk down the hill to Greenwich town.



Ranger's House in Greenwich Park

11 Blackheath

SE3. **Map** 24 D5. 🚶 Blackheath.

This open heath used to be a rallying point for large groups who were entering London from the east, including Wat Tyler's band of rebels at the time of the Peasants' Revolt in 1381.

Blackheath is also the place where King James I of England (James VI of Scotland) introduced the game of golf from his native Scotland to the then largely sceptical English.

Today the heath is well worth exploring for the stately Georgian houses and terraces that surround it. The prettily named Tranquil Vale to the south of the heath is Blackheath village's main shopping strip.

12 Croom's Hill

SE10. **Map** 23 C3. 🚶 Cutty Sark DLR, Greenwich DLR. 🚶 Greenwich.

Croom's Hill is one of the best kept 17th- to early 19th-century

streets in London. The oldest buildings are at the Blackheath end: the original Manor House of 1695; No. 68, from about the same date; and No. 66, the oldest of all (c. 1630). The actor Daniel Day Lewis grew up in No. 6.

13 The Fan Museum

12 Croom's Hill SE10. **Map** 23 B3. **Tel** 020 8305 1441. 🚶 Greenwich. **Open** 11am–5pm Tue–Sat, noon–5pm Sun. **Closed** 1 Jan, 24–26 Dec. 🚶 no flash. 🚶 by appt. 🚶 Afternoon tea Tue, Fri, Sat & Sun (booking advised Tue & Sun) 🚶 🚶 Lectures, fan-making workshops first Sat of the month. 🌐 thefanmuseum.org.uk

One of London's most unusual museums – the only one of its kind in the UK – this opened in 1991. It owes its existence and appeal to the enthusiasm of Helene Alexander, whose personal collection of about 4,000 fans from the 17th century onwards has been augmented by donations. A small permanent exhibition looks at types of fans and fan-making, while the large collection is rotated in temporary displays. On some days, afternoon tea is served in the pretty orangery at the back.



Stage fan used in a D'Oyly Carte operetta



FURTHER AFIELD

Many of the great houses originally built as country retreats for London's high and mighty were overrun by sprawling suburbs in the Victorian era. Grandest of the survivors is Hampton Court, a royal palace since Henry VIII's

time, but there are others that have become interesting, often eclectic museums and galleries. For a green escape from the city, try Richmond Park, or Kew Gardens, with its unrivalled international collection of plants.

Sights at a Glance

Historic Streets and Buildings

- 5 Alexandra Palace
- 9 Sutton House
- 20 Charlton House
- 21 Eltham Palace
- 29 Hampton Court pp260–63
- 30 Ham House
- 31 Orleans House Gallery
- 32 Marble Hill House
- 34 Syon House
- 36 Osterley Park House
- 37 Pitzhanger Manor House and Gallery
- 40 Strand on the Green
- 41 Chiswick House
- 43 Fulham Palace

Modern Architecture

- 15 Canary Wharf
- 19 The O2 Arena
- 44 Chelsea Harbour

Markets

- 2 Camden Market

Museums and Galleries

- 3 Freud Museum
- 6 The Jewish Museum
- 8 Geffrye Museum
- 10 V&A Museum of Childhood
- 14 Museum of London Docklands
- 16 William Morris Gallery
- 22 Horniman Museum
- 23 Dulwich Picture Gallery
- 26 Wimbledon Lawn Tennis Museum
- 27 Wimbledon Windmill Museum
- 35 Musical Museum
- 38 London Museum of Water & Steam
- 42 Hogarth's House

Parks and Gardens

- 24 Battersea Park
- 28 Richmond Park
- 39 Kew Gardens pp266–7

Churches and Temples

- 4 BAPS Shri Swaminarayan Mandir
- 11 St Mary, Rotherhithe
- 12 St Anne's, Limehouse
- 25 St Mary's, Battersea

Historic Districts

- 7 Islington
- 33 Richmond

Modern Technology

- 17 Emirates Air Line Cable Car
- 18 Thames Barrier

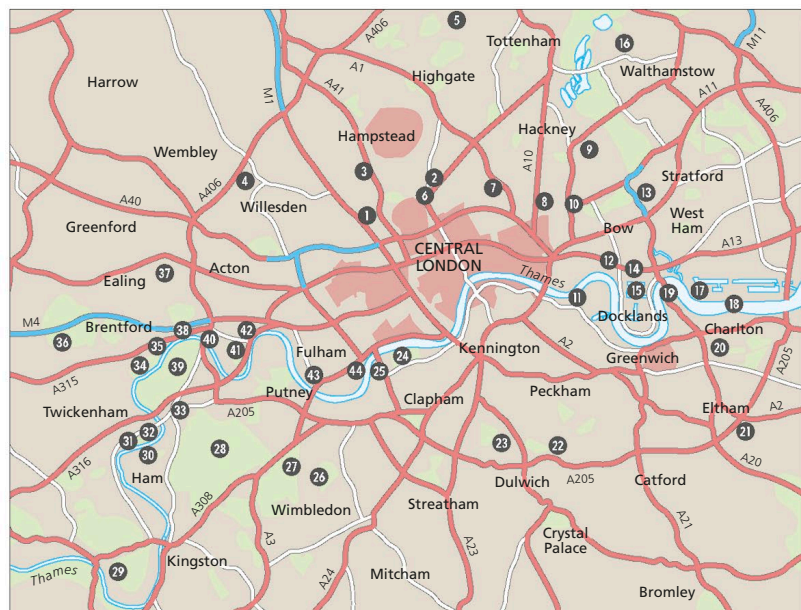
Sports Grounds

- 1 Lord's Cricket Ground
- 13 Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park pp254–5

Key

- Main sightseeing areas
- Motorway
- Main road
- Minor road

0 kilometres 5
0 miles 3



All the sights in this section lie inside the M25 motorway (see pp14–15).

North of the Centre

1 Lord's Cricket Ground

NW8. **Map** 3 A3. **Tel** 020 7616 8595. MCC Museum tours: 020 7616 8658. **📍** St John's Wood. **Open** Tours daily every hour: Jan–Mar 11am–2pm; Apr–Oct 10am–3pm; Nov & Dec 10am–2pm. Pre-booking essential. No tours on major match days. **Closed** last week of Dec (and occasional other days). **📺** museum free for match ticket holders. **📞** **📺** See *Entertainment* pp350–51. **🌐** lords.org

Professional cricketer Thomas Lord moved his ground here in 1814. The Pavilion (1890), from which women were excluded until 1999, is late Victorian.

You can visit the headquarters of Britain's chief summer sport on regular guided tours that take in the honour boards, dressing rooms and the MCC Museum, which is full of memorabilia from cricketing history, including a stuffed sparrow killed by a cricket ball, as well as the Ashes. This tiny urn contains, supposedly, the burned remains of a cricket bail signifying "the death of English cricket" after a notable defeat by Australia. It is still the object of ferocious competition between the two national teams. The museum explains the history of the game, and mementos of notable cricketers make it a place of pilgrimage for devotees of the sport.

2 Camden Market

NW1. **📍** Camden Town, Chalk Farm. **Open** 10am–6pm daily; some cafés and bars open later. **🌐** camdenmarket.com

Camden Market is really a series of interconnected markets along Chalk Farm Road and Camden High Street. Packed at the weekends, most of the shops and some of the stalls are also open on weekdays. Many units are housed in restored Victorian buildings alongside Camden Lock and the canal. Some of the more interesting stalls are in the Stables Market towards the Chalk



The lavish exterior of the BAPS Shri Swaminarayan Mandir

Farm end. The first market here was a crafts market at Camden Lock in 1975. Today, the markets sell a range of goods, from crafts and street fashion to new-age remedies, and there are lots of food stalls, particularly near the lock and in the Stables Market.

3 Freud Museum

20 Maresfield Gdns NW3. **Tel** 020 7435 2002. **📍** Finchley Rd. **Open** noon–5pm Wed–Sun (also Mon in Aug & Sep). **Closed** 1 Jan, 25–26 Dec. **📺** no flash. **📞** limited. **📺** Events. **🌐** freud.org.uk

In 1938 Sigmund Freud, the founder of psychoanalysis, fled from Nazi persecution in Vienna to this Hampstead house. Making use of the possessions he brought with him, his family recreated the atmosphere of his Vienna consulting rooms. After Freud died in 1939 his daughter Anna (who was a pioneer of child psychoanalysis) kept the house as it was and in 1986 it was opened as a museum dedicated to Freud. On display is the couch on which patients lay for analysis. A series of 1930s home movies shows moments



The meticulously preserved consulting rooms in the Freud Museum

with his dog as well as footage of Nazi attacks on his apartment. The bookshop has a large collection of his works.

4 BAPS Shri Swaminarayan Mandir

105–119 Brentfield Rd, Neasden NW10. **📍** Harlesden Station, then bus 224 (or Stonebridge Park and bus 112) **Tel** 020 8965 2651. **Open** Mandir and Haveli: 9am–11am, 11:45am–12:15pm, 4pm–6pm (to 5pm Sat) daily **📺** arrange in advance. **📺** for museum. **📞** **📺** **📺** **🌐** londonmandir.baps.org

Right out in northwest London, not far from Wembley Stadium, stands one of the most incongruous – and beautiful – religious buildings in the city, often known simply as the Neasden Temple. The intricately carved Hindu temple was completed in 1995, after a small army of volunteers from the local community banded together to raise funds and build it. Thousands of tonnes of Bulgarian limestone and Italian Carrara marble were shipped to India to be carved, then assembled on site like a giant jigsaw, largely by volunteers. The result is a staggeringly detailed, intricately carved temple. Make sure you visit when the inner hall is open (it closes for prayers several times a day; check website) when you can inspect some of the carving close-up. The complex also includes a Haveli,

the cultural education centre, the interior of which features yet more beautiful carving, this time from Burmese teak and English oak. Leave any large bags at the security desk across the road, dress modestly (with your shoulders, upper arms and knees covered) and remove your shoes when you enter the main building (cloakrooms are provided).

There's a small museum on Hinduism, with a video about the temple's construction.

5 Alexandra Palace

Alexandra Palace Way N22.

🚶 Alexandra Palace. 📍 Wood Green, then bus W3. **Tel** 020 8365 2121.

Open for events 🎫 📺 🏊 Ice rink

Open 11am–1:30pm & 2–5:30pm

Mon–Fri, 10:30am–12:30pm &

2–4:30pm Sat & Sun, plus weekend

evening sessions and special events.

🚤 Boat hire: Apr–Oct 11am–6pm.

🌐 alexandrapalace.com

Built as the People's Palace in 1873, Alexandra Palace has a slightly chequered history – it has burned down twice, once just 16 days after it opened, and again in 1980. From 1936 until 1956 the BBC's television studios were housed at Alexandra Palace, and in 1936 the first television transmission took place from here (there are plans afoot to re-create the BBC studios in the eastern end of the palace). Affectionately known as Ally Pally, the large, ornate Victorian halls now host

a wide variety of events, from trade and antiques fairs to large-scale concerts. Set in 80 hectares (196 acres) of parkland, the building sits majestically exposed on a hill, so the views are spectacular, and it's a good spot for fireworks and fairs. There's a permanent ice rink and the grounds have a ten-hole pitch-and-putt golf course, boating lake and playgrounds. Check the website for details of events.

6 The Jewish Museum

129–31 Albert St NW1. **Map** 4 E1. **Tel**

020 7284 7384. 📍 Camden Town.

Open 10am–5pm Sat–Thu, 10am–

2pm Fri. **Closed** Jewish hols, 25 & 26

Dec & 1 Jan. 🎫 📺 🏊 (not Sat). 🌐

🌐 jewishmuseum.org.uk

London's Jewish Museum was founded in 1932 in Bloomsbury, and it has occupied several locations – at one point it was split between two sites, in Finchley and Camden. In 2007 the museum celebrated its 75th anniversary with the commencement of works to bring the two collections together in a single building. Opened in 2010, the museum has large galleries, education facilities and hands-on displays for children.

Celebrating Jewish life in Britain from the Middle Ages onwards, the museum is packed with memorabilia. It also has important collections of Jewish



Jewish Bakers' Union banner, c.1926, in the Jewish Museum, Camden

ceremonial objects and some illuminated marriage contracts. The highlight is a 17th- or 18th-century Venetian synagogue ark. There is also an exhibition on the Holocaust.

7 Islington

N1. **Map** 6 E1. 📍 Angel, Highbury & Islington.

Islington was once a highly fashionable spa, but the rich began to move out in the late 18th century, and the area deteriorated rapidly. During the 20th century, writers such as Evelyn Waugh, George Orwell and Joe Orton lived here. Now Islington has again returned to fashion as one of London's first areas to become gentrified, with many young professionals buying and refurbishing old houses.

An older relic is Canonbury Tower, the remains of a medieval manor house converted into apartments in the 18th century. Writers such as Washington Irving and Oliver Goldsmith lived here and today it houses the Tower Theatre.

On Islington Green, there is a statue of Sir Hugh Myddleton, who built a canal through Islington in 1613 to bring water to London from Hertfordshire; today a landscaped walk along its banks runs between Essex Road and Canonbury stations. Chapel Market takes place close to Angel Tube (see p336), and there are antique shops at Camden Passage. The N1 Centre is a shopping and cinema complex.



Alexandra Palace, a landmark in television broadcasting history

This delightful museum is housed in a set of restored 18th-century almshouses. The almshouses were built in 1715 on land bequeathed by Sir Robert Geffrye, a 17th-century Lord Mayor of London. Inside, you take a trip through historic room settings, each providing an insight into the domestic interiors of the urban middle classes from 1600 to the present day, reflecting changes in society, behaviour, style and taste. Each room contains superb examples of British furniture of the period. Outside, a series of period garden "rooms" show the designs and planting schemes popular in urban gardens between the 16th and 20th

centuries. The museum is currently closed until 2019 for a £15m redevelopment, which will bring to life additional almshouse buildings and more than double the museum's space.

One of the few London Tudor merchants' houses to survive in something like its original form, Sutton House was built in 1535 for Ralph Sadleir, a courtier to Henry VIII. It was owned by several wealthy families before becoming a girls' school in the 17th century. In the 18th century, the front was altered, but the Tudor fabric remains surprisingly intact, including original brickwork, fireplaces and panelling.



A typical Victorian-era room at the Geffrye Museum

The church also contains a fine example of 18th-century organ building by John Byfield.

12 St Anne's, Limehouse

3 Colt St E14. **Tel** 020 7987 1502.

🚆 Westferry DLR. 🕒 10:30am & 6pm Sun. 🎟 Concerts, lectures; see website for details.

🌐 stanneslimehouse.org

Designed by Nicholas Hawksmoor, St Anne's was built between 1714 and 1727. Its 40-m (130-ft) tower was a land-mark for ships using the East End docks and still has the highest church clock in London. The interior, damaged by fire in 1850, was subsequently Victorianized.

13 Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park

See pp254–5.

14 Museum of London Docklands

No. 1 Warehouse, West India Quay E14.

Tel 020 7001 9844. 🚆 Canary Wharf, Westferry. **Open** 10am–6pm daily.

Closed 24–26 Dec. 🕒 🎟 📺 📱

🌐 museumoflondon.org.uk/museum-london-docklands

Occupying a late Georgian warehouse, this museum tells the story of London's docks and their links from Roman times to the present. A highlight is the recreation of the dark and dangerous "Sailortown" of Wapping in the 1850s.

15 Canary Wharf

E14. 🚆 Canary Wharf or West India Quay DLR. 🕒 🎟 📺 📱

London's most ambitious commercial development opened in 1991, when the first tenants moved into the 50-storey Canada Tower. At 250 m (800 ft), it dominates the city's eastern skyline. The tower stands on what was the West India Dock, closed, like all the London docks, between the 1960s and the 1980s, when trade moved down-river to Tilbury. Today, Canary Wharf is thriving, with a major shopping complex and restaurants.

16 William Morris Gallery

Lloyd Park, Forest Rd E17. **Tel** 020

8496 4390. 🚆 Walthamstow Central.

Open 10am–5pm Wed–Sun.

Closed 25 & 26 Dec, 1 Jan. 🕒 🎟

📺 Lectures. 🌐 wmgallery.org.uk

The most influential designer of the Victorian era, born in 1834, lived in this 18th-century house as a young man in 1848–56. It is now a beguiling and well-presented museum giving a full account of William Morris the artist, designer, writer, craftsman and socialist.

It has examples of his work and that of other members of the Arts and Crafts movement – tiles by William de Morgan, and paintings by members of the Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood.

Interactive exhibits introduce visitors to techniques such as hand-printing and dyeing.

17 Emirates Air Line Cable Car

Western Gateway E16/Edmund Halley

Way SE10. 🚆 Royal Victoria DLR,

North Greenwich. **Open** 7am–9pm

Mon–Fri, 8am–9pm Sat, 9am–9pm

Sun (to 8pm Oct–Mar). 🕒 🎟

🌐 emiratesairline.co.uk

Connecting the Royal Victoria Dock and The O2, this cable car provides spectacular views over the river during the 5-minute trip.



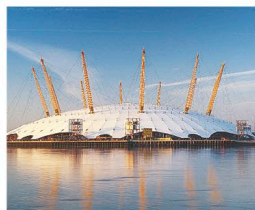
Intricate detail visible on a William Morris tapestry (1885)

18 Thames Barrier

Unity Way SE18. **Tel** 020 8305 4188.

🚆 Charlton, Woolwich Arsenal (south side); Silvertown (north side). Visitor centre **Open** 10:30am–5pm Thu–Sun (last adm 4:30pm). **Closed** 25 Dec–1 Jan. 🕒 🎟 📺 📱 exhibition. 🌐 gov.uk/guidance/the-thames-barrier

In 1236, the Thames rose so high that people rowed across Westminster Hall; London flooded again in 1663, 1928 and in 1953. Something had to be done, and in 1965 the Greater London Council invited proposals. The Thames Barrier was unveiled in 1984. It is 520 m (1,700 ft) across. Its 10 gates swing up to 1.6 m (6 ft) above the level reached by the tide in 1953, and have been used over 100 times. Some boat tours (see p379) go to the barrier. There's also a small visitor centre.



Unique structure of the O2 Arena

19 The O2 Arena

North Greenwich SE10. **Tel** 020 8463

2000 or 0844 856 0202 (to book

tickets). 🚆 North Greenwich.

Open 9am–late. Up at the O2

(climbing) **Tel** 020 8463 2680.

🌐 theo2.co.uk

The former Millennium Dome was the focal point of Britain's celebration of the year 2000. Controversial from its earliest days, it is nonetheless a spectacular feat of engineering. Its canopy is made from 100,000 sq m (109,000 sq yards) of Teflon-coated spun glass-fibre, and is supported by over 70 km (43 miles) of steel cable rigged to twelve 100-m (328-ft) masts.

Now one of London's largest concert venues, the O2 also has bars, restaurants, a cinema and IndigO2, a smaller venue. You can also don climbing gear and ascend the outside along a long, bouncy walkway to the very top.

13 Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park

As the only city to have hosted the Olympic Games three times – in 1908, 1948 and 2012 – London is justifiably proud of its place in Olympic history. The main site for the 2012 Olympics and Paralympics was a 225-hectare (560-acre) area of land stretching along the River Lea in east London, which was previously a fairly bleak former industrial area. The main attractions today are immediately familiar to anyone who watched the events: a series of large, functional but striking venues dotted amid meandering waterways and surrounded by quintessentially English wildflower gardens. Renamed Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park to commemorate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee in 2012, the site has been transformed into a permanent leisure attraction. Renovation continues around the periphery, but there is plenty to see and do, particularly if you catch one of the numerous events hosted here, including big sporting events and live music, or go equipped to try out some sports.

KEY

- ① Lee Valley Hockey and Tennis Centre
- ② Mountain bike trails
- ③ Olympic Rings
- ④ Wetlands Walk
- ⑤ Underpass to Stratford International station

Waterways and Wetlands

There are 6.5 km (4 miles) of waterways, including stretches of the River Lea and its tributaries and sections of canal. In the north of the park a wetland area known as the Waterglades has been created, complete with wetland plants to attract wildlife.



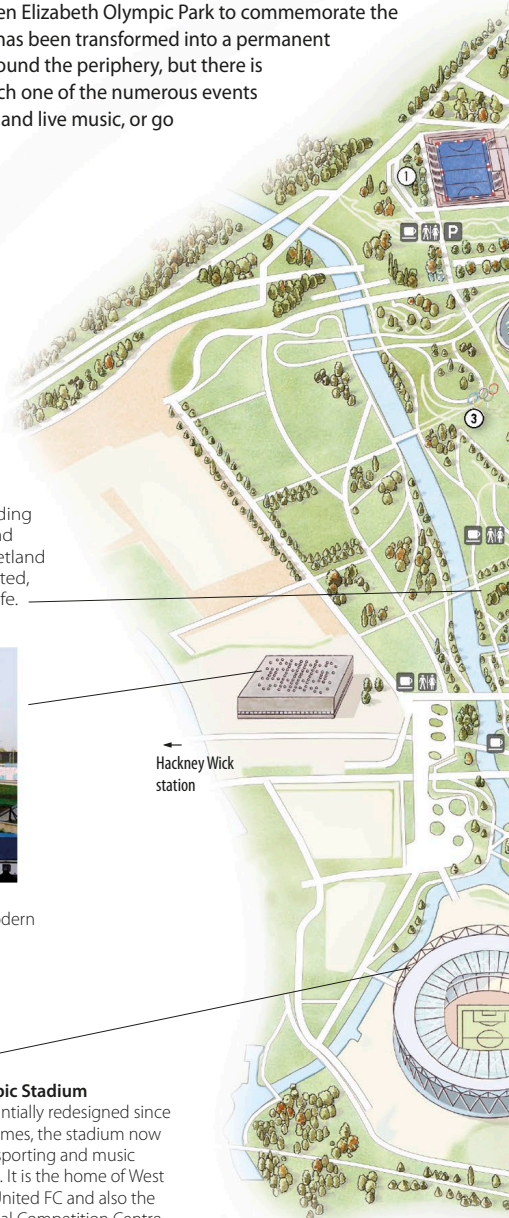
Copper Box Arena

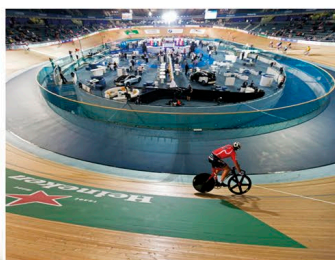
An indoor arena that hosted the handball and modern pentathlon fencing during the Games now hosts numerous indoor sporting events.



Olympic Stadium

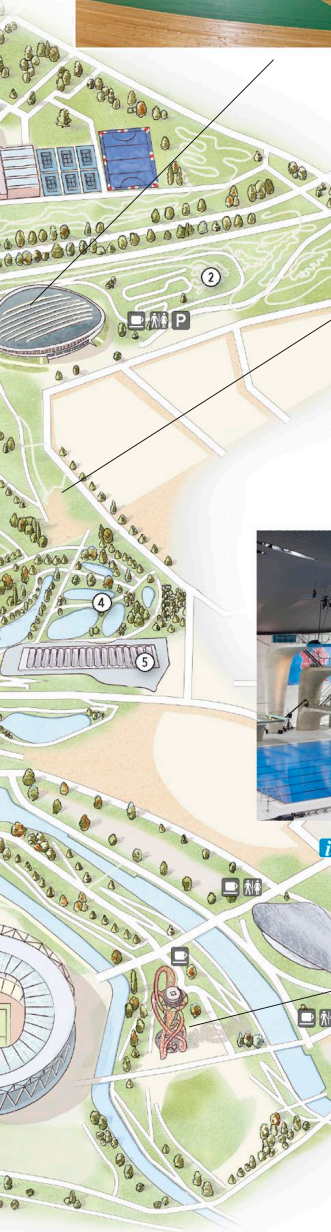
Substantially redesigned since the Games, the stadium now hosts sporting and music events. It is the home of West Ham United FC and also the National Competition Centre for athletics in the UK.





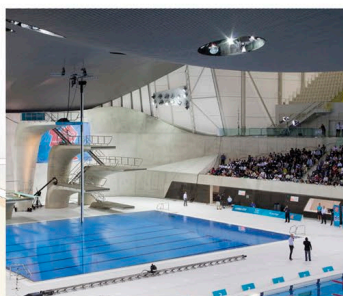
Lee Valley VeloPark

The Velodrome is now the hub of a large cycling activity centre, which also has BMX and road tracks and mountain-bike trails. Visitors can book taster sessions.



Tumbling Bay Playground

The best of several playgrounds in the park has sandpits and water features, a treehouse and wobbly bridges. The neighbouring Timber Lodge Café has outdoor seating, and is a good spot for families.



VISITORS' CHECKLIST

Practical Information

E20. Tel 0800 0722 110. Park:

Open 24 hrs daily; information point 10am–3pm daily.

queenelizabetholympicpark.co.uk

boat tours Apr–Sep: daily, Mar: Sat & Sun, Oct–Feb: select days.

Tel 0845 116 2012.

leeandstortboats.co.uk

ArcelorMittal Orbit: **Open** Apr–Sep: 10am–6pm daily; Oct–Mar: 10am–4pm daily.

arcelormittalorbit.com

Aquatics Centre: Tel 020 8536

3150. **Open** 6am–10:30pm daily; check online for timings of swimming sessions and events.

londonaquaticscentre.org

Lee Valley VeloPark: Tel 03000 030

613. **Open** 9am–10pm Mon–Fri, 8am–10pm Sat, 8am–8pm Sun.

Book taster sessions online in advance.

visitleevely.org.uk

Transport

Stratford. Pudding Lane.

Hackney Wick. 308, 339 388, D8.

London Aquatics Centre

Architect Zaha Hadid was inspired by the movement and flow of water for her sweeping, curved design for the Aquatics Centre. Everyone can swim in the pools here: a 50-m competition pool, plus training and diving pools.

Stratford station

ArcelorMittal Orbit

Designed by artist Anish Kapoor, this is one of the most recognizable landmarks in the park. The twisting steel tower is part sculpture, part viewing platform and part fairground attraction for adults and kids: a hair-raising 178-m (580-ft) slide was added in 2016.



South of the Centre



A Jacobean fireplace at Charlton House

20 Charlton House

Charlton Rd SE7. **Tel** 020 8856 3951.
 🚗 Charlton. House: **Open** 9am–5pm
 Mon–Fri. Grounds: **Open** 6am–10pm
 daily. **Closed** public hols, 25 Dec.
 🗉 group tours available, book ahead.
 🚻 limited. 🕒 9am–4pm Mon–Fri.
 🌐 greenwichheritage.org/visit/charlton-house

Completed in 1612 for Adam Newton, tutor to Prince Henry, Charlton House has good river views and is the best-preserved Jacobean mansion in London, which makes it well worth the tricky journey for enthusiasts of that period. It is now used as a community centre and library, but many of the original ceilings and fireplaces survive, as does the carved main staircase. Parts of the wood panelling, too, are original, and the ceilings have been restored using the original moulds. The grounds contain a summer house reputedly designed by Inigo Jones, and a mulberry tree said to have been planted by James I in

1608. Visitors can walk around the gardens, including the Peace Garden.

21 Eltham Palace

Court Yard SE9. **Tel** 020 8294 2548.
 🚗 Eltham then a 15-minute walk.
Open Apr–Sep: 10am–6pm Sun–Thu;
 Oct: 10am–5pm Sun–Thu; Nov–Mar:
 10am–4pm Sun (plus extra days
 during school holidays). **Closed** 1 Jan,
 25, 26 & 31 Dec. 🗉 🗉 🗉 🗉 🗉
 🌐 english-heritage.org.uk

This unique property lets visitors relive the grand life of two very different eras. In the 14th century, English kings spent Christmas in a splendid palace here. The Tudors used it as a base for deer-hunting but it fell in to ruin after the Civil War (1642–8). In 1935

Stephen Courtauld, of the wealthy textile family, restored the Great Hall and, next to it, he built a house described as “a wonderful combination of Hollywood glamour and Art Deco design”. It has been superbly restored – especially the circular glass-domed entrance hall. Note the carp-filled moat and the 1930s garden.

22 Horniman Museum

100 London Rd SE23. **Tel** 020 8699 1872. 🚗 Forest Hill. Gardens: **Open**
 7:15am–sunset Mon–Sat, 8am–sunset
 Sun. Museum: **Open** 10:30am–5:30pm
 daily. Animal Walk: **Open** 12:30–4pm
 daily. **Closed** 24–26 Dec. 🗉 Aquarium
 🗉 🗉 🗉 Events & activities.
 🌐 horniman.ac.uk

Frederick Horniman, the tea merchant, had this museum built in 1901 to house the curios he had collected on his travels in the 1860s. It features a music gallery, aquarium, world culture displays and a natural history gallery that contains a remarkable collection of taxidermy and skeletons, including the famous Horniman Walrus. The gardens have a Victorian conservatory, a bandstand, a formal sunken garden and a small petting zoo.

23 Dulwich Picture Gallery

College Rd SE21. **Tel** 020 8693 5254.
 🚗 West Dulwich, North Dulwich.
Open 10am–5pm Tue–Sun & bank
 hol Mon (last adm 4:30pm).
Closed 1 Jan, 24–26 Dec. 🗉
 🗉 3pm Sat & Sun. 🗉 🗉 🗉
 🌐 dulwichpicturegallery.org.uk



Rembrandt's *Jacob III de Gheyn* at
Dulwich Picture Gallery

England's oldest public art gallery, which opened in 1817 was designed by Sir John Soane (see pp 140–41). Its imaginative use of skylights made it the prototype of most art galleries built since. It was commissioned to house the royal

collection of the King of Poland when he was forced to abdicate in 1795. The superb collection has works by Rembrandt (his *Jacob III de Gheyn* has been stolen from here four times), Canaletto, Poussin, Watteau, Claude, Murillo, Raphael and Gainsborough. The building houses Soane's mausoleum to Desenfans and Bourgeois, the art dealers who built the collection.

24 Battersea Park

Albert Bridge Rd SW11. **Map** 19 C5. **Tel** 020 8871 7530. Sloane Sq then bus 137. Battersea Pk. **Open** 6:30am–10:30pm daily. Sports facilities. See *Six Guided Walks* pp272–3. batterseapark.org

This was the second public park created to relieve the growing urban stresses of Victorian Londoners (the first was Victoria Park in the East End). It opened in 1858 on the former Battersea Fields, a swampy area notorious for vice, centred on the Old Red House, a disreputable pub.

The new park was immediately popular, especially for its man-made boating lake, with its romantic rocks, gardens and waterfalls. In 1985, a peace pagoda was unveiled, a 35-m (100-ft) high monument built by Buddhist nuns and monks. There are also an excellent children's zoo (entry fee), a playground, sports activities and an art gallery, the Pumphouse.



Peace Pagoda, Battersea Park



Tennis racket and net from 1888, Wimbledon Lawn Tennis Museum

25 St Mary's, Battersea

Battersea Church Rd SW11. **Tel** 020 7228 9648. Sloane Sq then bus 19 or 219. **Open** by arrangement. 8:30am Mon–Wed; 12:30pm Thu; 8:30am, 11am & 6:30pm Sun. stmarysbattersea.org.uk

There has been a church here since at least the 10th century. The present brick building dates from 1775, but the 17th-century stained glass, commemorating Tudor monarchs, comes from the former church. In 1782, the poet and artist William Blake was married in the church. Later, J M W Turner painted views of the Thames from the church tower. Benedict Arnold, who served George Washington in the American War of Independence, is buried in the crypt.

26 Wimbledon Lawn Tennis Museum

Church Rd SW19. **Tel** 020 8247 3142; tours 020 8946 6131. Southfields. **Open** Apr–Sep: 10am–5:30pm; Oct–Mar: 10am–5pm daily (during championships, ticket holders only). **Closed** 1 Jan, 24–26 Dec. wimbledon.com

Even those with only a passing interest in the sport will find plenty to enjoy here. The museum explores tennis's development from its invention in the 1860s as a diversion for country house parties to the sport it is today. Equipment and tennis fashion from the Victorian era are on display and visitors can

watch clips and recent matches in the video theatre. Tours include a visit to Centre Court.

27 Wimbledon Windmill Museum

Windmill Rd SW19. **Tel** 020 8947 2825. Wimbledon then 30-minute walk. **Open** Apr–Oct: 2–5pm Sat, 11am–5pm Sun & public hols (Nov–Mar: groups only, by arrangement). wimbledonwindmill.org.uk

Built in 1817, the mill on Wimbledon Common now houses a museum exploring windmills, rural life and local history. Boy Scout founder Robert Baden-Powell wrote part of *Scouting for Boys* here in 1908.



St Mary's, Battersea

West of the Centre



Ham House

28 Richmond Park

Kingston Vale SW15. **Tel** 0300 061 2200. Richmond then bus 65 or 71. **Open** 24 hours (7:30am–8pm Nov & Feb).
www.royalparksofuk.org

In 1637, Charles I built a 13-km (8-mile) wall round Richmond Park to enclose the royal park as a hunting ground. Today the park is a national nature reserve and deer still graze warily among the chestnuts, birches and oaks, no longer hunted but still discreetly culled. They have learned to coexist with the thousands of human visitors who stroll here on fine weekends.

In late spring, the park's highlight is the Isabella Plantation with its spectacular display of azaleas, while the nearby Pen Ponds are popular with optimistic anglers. (Adam's Pond is for model boats.) The rest of the park is covered with heath, bracken and trees (some of them hundreds of years old). Richmond Gate, in the northwest corner, was designed by the landscape gardener Capability Brown in 1798. Nearby is Henry VIII Mound, where in 1536 the



Deer in Richmond Park

king, staying in Richmond Palace, awaited the signal that his former wife, Anne Boleyn, had been executed. The Palladian White Lodge, built in 1729, is home to the Royal Ballet School.

29 Hampton Court

See pp260–63.

30 Ham House

Ham St, Richmond. **Tel** 020 8940 1950. Richmond then bus 65 or 371. **Open** Mar–early Oct: noon–4pm daily; mid-Oct–Feb: for tours only (arrange in advance). **Closed** 1 Jan, 24 & 25 Dec. by appt. partial. Gardens, café and shop: **Open** 10am–5pm daily. www.nationaltrust.org.uk

This magnificent house by the Thames was built in 1610, but its heyday came when it was home to the Duke of Lauderdale, confidant to Charles II and Secretary of State for Scotland. His wife, the Countess of Dysart, inherited it from her father, who had been Charles I's "whipping boy" (he took the punishment for the future king's misdemeanours). From 1672, the Duke and Countess modernized the house, and it was regarded as one of Britain's finest. The garden has been restored to its 17th-century form.

On some days in summer, a foot passenger ferry runs from

here to Marble Hill House and Orleans House at Twickenham.

31 Orleans House Gallery

Orleans Rd, Twickenham. **Tel** 020 8831 6000. St Margaret's or Richmond then bus 33, 90, 290, R68 or R70. **Open** 10am–5pm Tue–Sun. **Closed** between exhibitions, and occasionally for private events; 1 Jan, Good Fri, 24–26 Dec. Gardens **Open** 9am–dusk daily. ground floor. richmond.gov.uk/orleans_house_gallery

This gallery is on the site of the original Orleans House, named after Louis Philippe, Duke of Orleans, who lived there from 1815 to 1817. The Octagon Room was designed by James Gibbs for James Johnson in 1720. The gallery hosts temporary exhibitions throughout the year.



Marble Hill House

32 Marble Hill House

Richmond Rd, Twickenham. **Tel** 020 8892 5115. St Margaret's. **Open** Apr–Oct: by guided tour only, Sat & Sun (several daily, phone or visit website to check). **Closed** Nov–Mar. restricted. Park: **Open** daily 7am–7pm. www.english-heritage.org.uk

Built in 1729 for George II's mistress, Henrietta Howard, the house and its grounds have been open to the public since 1903. Fully restored to its Georgian appearance, the house has a collection of paintings by William Hogarth and a view of

the river and house in 1762 by Richard Wilson, who is widely regarded as the father of English landscape painting. The café, which is open year-round, is especially good.



A Richmond lane

33 Richmond

SW15. Richmond.

This attractive London suburb took its name from the palace that Henry VII built here in 1500. Many early 18th-century houses survive near the river and off Richmond Hill, notably Maids of Honour Row, which was built in 1724. The beautiful view of the river from the top of the hill has been captured by many artists, and remains largely unspoiled.

34 Syon House

London Rd, Brentford. **Tel** 020 8560 0882. Gunnersbury then bus 237 or 267. House: **Open** mid-Mar–Oct: 11am–5pm Wed–Thu, Sun & public hols (last adm: 4pm). **Closed** Nov–mid-Mar. Gardens: **Open** mid-Mar–Oct: 10:30am–5pm daily (last adm: 4pm). **Closed** Nov–mid-Mar. gardens only. syonpark.co.uk

The Earls and Dukes of Northumberland have lived here for 400 years – it is the only large mansion in the London area still in hereditary ownership. The interior was

remodelled in 1761 by Robert Adam and is considered one of his masterpieces. The five Adam rooms house original furnishings and a collection of old master paintings.

The 200-acre (80-ha) park, landscaped by Capability Brown, includes a lovely 40-acre (16-ha) garden with more than 200 species of rare trees. The park's Great Conservatory inspired Joseph Paxton's designs for the Crystal Palace (see pp30–31).

35 Musical Museum

399 High St, Brentford. **Tel** 020 8560 8108. Kew Bridge. Gunnersbury, South Ealing then bus 237 or 267. **Open** 11am–5pm Fri–Sun & bank hols Mon (last adm: 4pm). musicalmuseum.co.uk

The collection is arranged over three floors and comprises chiefly large self-playing instruments, including player (automatic) pianos and organs, miniature and cinema pianos, and what is thought to be the only surviving self-playing Wurlitzer organ in Europe.



Drawing room, Osterley Park House

36 Osterley Park House

Jersey Rd, Isleworth. **Tel** 020 8232 5050. Osterley. **Open** Mar & Oct noon–4pm Wed–Sun; Apr–Sep: 11am–5pm daily; first 2 weeks Dec: noon–4pm Sat & Sun. Garden: **Open** 10am–5pm daily. Park: **Open** 7am–6pm (later in summer). nationaltrust.org.uk/osterley

Osterley is ranked among Robert Adam's finest works, and its colonnaded portico and elegant library ceiling show why. Much of the furniture is by Adam; the garden and temple are by William Chambers, architect of Somerset House.

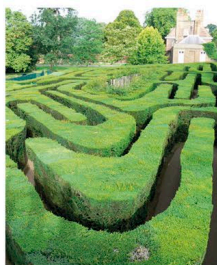


Robert Adam's Red Drawing Room at Syon House

29 Hampton Court

Hampton Court was not originally built as a royal palace but begun in 1514 by Cardinal Wolsey, Henry VIII's Archbishop of York, as his riverside country house. Later, in 1528, in the hope of retaining royal favour, Wolsey offered it to the king. After the royal takeover, Hampton Court was twice rebuilt and extended, first by Henry himself and then, in the 1690s, by William and Mary, who employed Christopher Wren as architect.

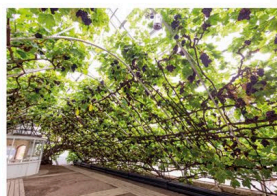
There is a striking contrast between Wren's Classical royal apartments and the Tudor turrets, gables and chimneys elsewhere. The inspiration for the gardens as they are today comes largely from the time of William and Mary, who created a vast, formal Baroque landscape, with radiating avenues of majestic limes and many collections of exotic plants.



★ The Maze

Lose yourself in one of the garden's most popular features.

Main entrance



★ The Great Vine

The vine was planted in the 1760s, and in the 19th century produced up to 910 kg (2,000 lb) of black grapes.

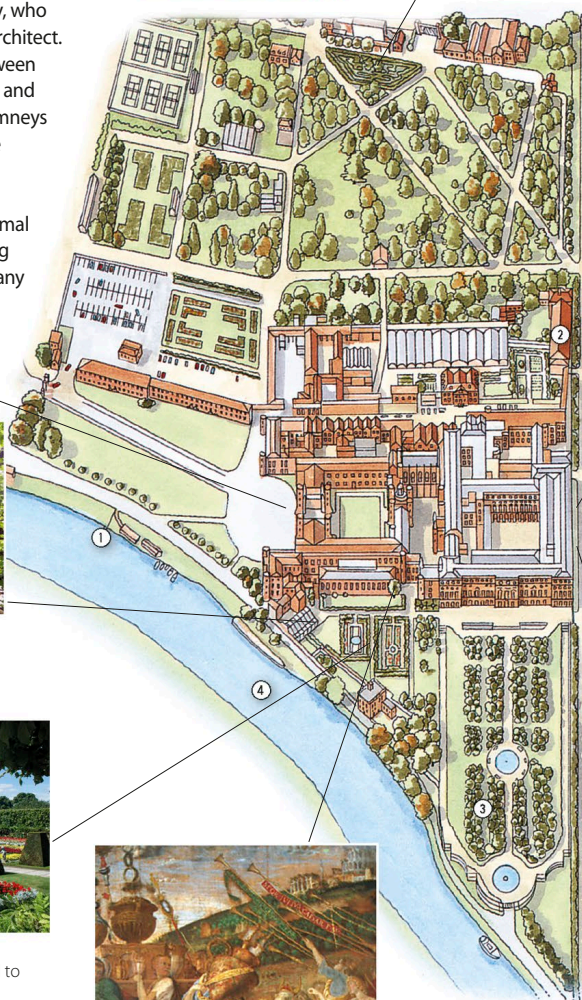


The Pond Garden

This sunken garden was once a pond to store fresh fish for Henry VIII's court.

KEY

- ① River boat pier
- ② Royal Tennis Court
- ③ Privy Garden
- ④ River Thames



★ The Mantegna Gallery

Andrea Mantegna's nine canvases depicting *The Triumphs of Caesar* (c.1484–1505) are housed here.



Broad Walk

The Great Gatehouse takes centre stage on the Broad Walk.

VISITORS' CHECKLIST

Practical Information

Surrey KT8 9AU.

Tel 0844 482 7777 or 020 3166 6000. [W hrp.org.uk](http://hrp.org.uk)

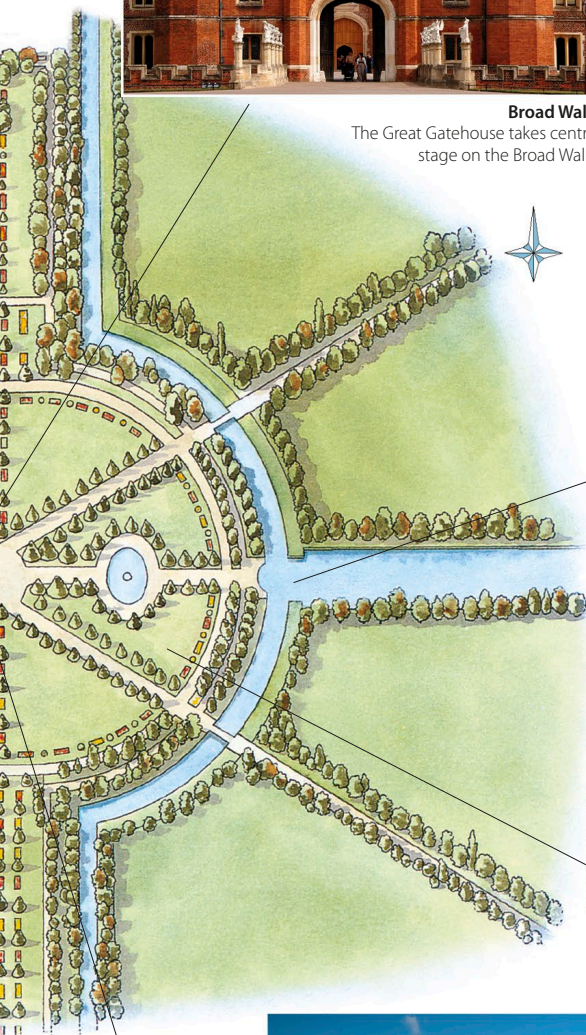
Open Apr–Oct: 10am–6pm daily;
Nov–Mar: 10am–4:30pm daily
(last adm: 1 hour before closing).

Closed 24–26 Dec.



Transport

Hampton Court. R68 from Richmond. Hampton Court pier (summer only).



Long Water

An artificial lake runs parallel to the Thames, from the Fountain Garden across the Home Park.



Fountain Garden

Some of the clipped yews here were planted in the reign of William and Mary.

The East Front

The windows of the Queen's Drawing Room, designed by Wren, overlook the central avenue of the Fountain Garden.



Exploring the Palace

As a historic royal palace, Hampton Court bears traces of many of the kings and queens of England from Henry VIII to the present day. The building itself is a harmonious blend of Tudor and English Baroque architecture. Inside, visitors can see the Great Hall, built by Henry VIII, as well as the state apartments of the Tudor court. Many of the Baroque state apartments, including those above Fountain Court, are decorated with furniture, tapestries and old masters from the Royal Collection.



Tudor Chimneys

Ornate chimneys, some original, some careful restorations, adorn the roof of the Tudor palace.



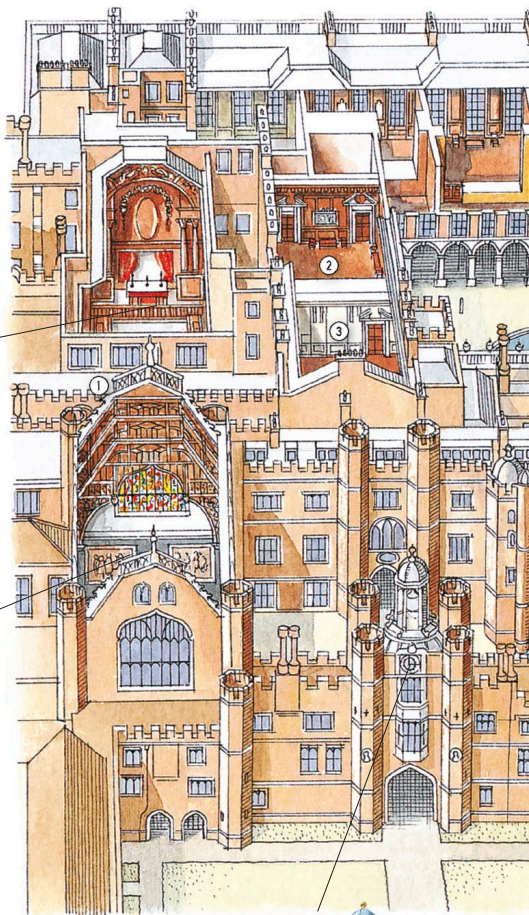
★ Chapel Royal

The Tudor chapel was re-fitted by Wren except for the carved and gilded vaulted ceiling.



★ Great Hall

The Tudor Great Hall is spanned by a sumptuously decorated hammer-beam roof and its walls hung with splendid tapestries.



KEY

- ① Haunted Gallery
- ② Queen's Presence Chamber
- ③ Queen's Guard Chamber
- ④ Wren's east façade

★ Clock Court

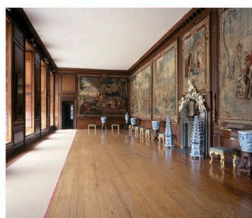
Anne Boleyn's gatehouse, adorned with the Astronomical Clock, created by Henry VIII in 1540, is the entrance to Clock Court.





King's Great Bedchamber

William III bought the crimson bed from his Lord Chamberlain.

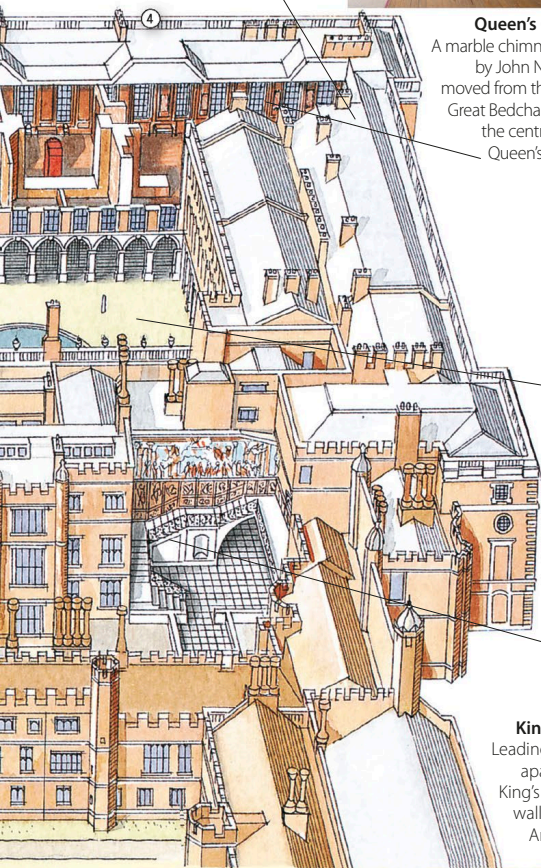


Queen's Gallery

A marble chimneypiece by John Nost was moved from the King's Great Bedchamber to the centre of the Queen's Gallery.

Cardinal Wolsey

Thomas Wolsey (c.1475–1530), simultaneously a cardinal, Archbishop of York and chancellor, was, after the king, the most powerful man in England. However, when he was unable to persuade the pope to allow Henry VIII to divorce his first wife, Catherine of Aragon, Wolsey fell from royal favour. He died while making his way to face trial for treason.



★ Fountain Court

The windows of state apartments are visible above the cloisters of Fountain Court.



King's Staircase

Leading to the state apartments, the King's Staircase has wall paintings by Antonio Verrio.

1514 Construction of palace begins

1532 Henry VIII starts new hall

1647 Charles I imprisoned by Oliver Cromwell

1734 William Kent decorates the Queen's Staircase

1838 Public first admitted to the palace

1986 State apartments partly damaged by fire

1500

1600

1700

1800

1900

1528 Wolsey gives the palace to Henry VIII

1689 William and Mary move to Hampton Court

1773 Great Gatehouse reduced by two storeys

c.1727 Queen's Apartments are finally completed

1992 Damaged apartments are reopened

Henry VIII painted by Hans Holbein



37 Pitzhanger Manor House and Gallery

Mattock Lane W5. **Tel** 020 8567 1227.

🚶 Ealing Broadway. **Open** House closed for refurbishment until spring 2018. Park: 7:30am–dusk daily; café: 8am–6pm Mon–Fri, 8:30am–6pm Sat & Sun (till 5pm in winter).

Closed public hols. 🎨 Exhibitions.

🌐 pitzhanger.org.uk

Sir John Soane, architect of the Bank of England (see p151), designed this manor house, completed in 1803, as his own country residence. There are clear echoes of his elaborately constructed town house in Lincoln's Inn Fields (see pp140–41).

Soane retained two of the principal formal rooms: the drawing room and the dining room, designed in 1768 by George Dance the Younger, with whom Soane had worked before establishing his own reputation.

A sympathetic 20th-century extension houses a gallery (currently closed for refurbishment). The gardens, which were bought by Soane in 1800 along with the house, have been a public park since 1901. The section behind the house has been restored to how it would have looked in Soane's time, and there's an attractive café. It offers a welcome contrast to the bustle of nearby Ealing.



Miniature train, London Museum of Water & Steam

38 London Museum of Water & Steam

Green Dragon Lane, Brentford.

Tel 020 8568 4757. 🚶 Kew Bridge, Gunnersbury then bus 65, 237 or 267.

Open 11am–4pm Tue–Sun & bank hol Mon (engines operate at weekends at set times – check website for details). 📱 📧 book ahead. 🕒 Sat & Sun. 🎫 🗺

🌐 waterandsteam.org.uk

This 19th-century water pumping station near the north end of Kew Bridge is now a museum of steam power and water. Its main exhibits are five giant Cornish beam engines that pumped water here from the river, to be distributed across London. The earliest engines, dating from 1820, are similar to those built to pump water out of Cornish

mines. Visitors can see them working at weekends and on public holidays. The Waterworks gallery tells the story of London's water supply, in lots of interactive detail, and there's a fun outdoor area, Splash Zone, where younger children can play with the water features.

39 Kew Gardens

See pp266–7.



City Barge, Strand on the Green

40 Strand on the Green

W4. 🚶 Gunnersbury then bus 237 or 267. 🚶 Kew Bridge.

This charming Thames-side walk passes fine 18th-century houses as well as more modest cottages once inhabited by fishermen. The oldest of its three pubs is the City Barge, parts of which date from the 15th century; the name is older and derives from the time when the Lord Mayor's barge was moored on the Thames outside.

41 Chiswick House

Burlington Lane W4. **Tel** 020 8995

0508. 🚶 Chiswick. **Open** Apr–Oct: 10am–6pm (to 5pm Oct) Sun–Wed & bank hols. 📱 📧 for groups, book in advance. 🎫 phone ahead. 🎫

Gardens **Open** 7am–dusk daily (free admission). 🕒 8:30am–6pm Apr–Oct, to 1hr before garden closes in winter.

🌐 chgt.org.uk

Completed in 1729 to the design of its owner, the third Earl of Burlington, this is a

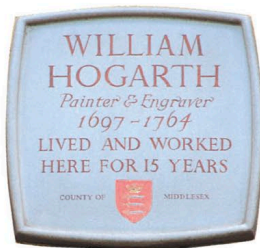
Chiswick House



fine example of a Palladian villa. Burlington revered Palladio and his disciple Inigo Jones, and statues of both stand outside. Built around a central octagonal room, the house is packed with references to ancient Rome and Renaissance Italy, as is the garden.

Chiswick was Burlington's country residence and this house was built as an annexe to a larger, older house (since demolished). It was designed for recreation and entertaining – Lord Hervey, Burlington's enemy, dismissed it as "too little to live in and too big to hang on a watch chain". Some of the ceiling paintings are by William Kent, who also contributed to the garden design.

The house was an asylum from 1892 until 1928, when a long process of restoration began. The layout of the garden, now a public park, is much as Burlington designed it.



Plaque on Hogarth's House

42 Hogarth's House

Hogarth Lane W4. **Tel** 020 8994 6757.
 ☞ Turnham Green. **Open** noon–5pm
 Tue–Sun & bank hol Mon. **Closed**
 1 Jan, Good Fri, Easter Sun, 24–26 Dec.
 ☞ ground floor only.
hounslow.info/arts/hogarthshouse

When the painter William Hogarth lived here from 1749 until his death in 1764, he called it "a little country box by the Thames" and painted bucolic views from its windows – he had moved here from Leicester Square (see p107). Today, traffic roars by along the Great West Road on its way to and from Heathrow Airport. In an environment as hostile as this, and following years of neglect



The Belvedere takes centre stage at Chelsea Harbour

and then bombing during World War II, the house has done well to survive. It has now been turned into a small museum and gallery, which is filled mostly with engraved copies of the moralistic cartoon-style pictures with which Hogarth made his name. Salutory tales, such as *The Rake's Progress* (in Sir John Soane's Museum – see pp140–41), *Marriage à la Mode*, *An Election Entertainment* and many others, can all be seen here.

43 Fulham Palace

Bishops Ave SW6. **Tel** 020 7736 3233.
 ☞ Putney Bridge. **Open** Summer:
 12:30–4:30pm Mon–Thu, noon–5pm
 Sun & bank hol Mon; Winter: 12:30–
 3:30pm Mon–Thu, noon–4pm Sun.
Closed Good Fri, 25 & 26 Dec. **Park**
Open daylight hours daily. 2–3
 times each month; check website for
 days and times. Events, concerts,
 lectures. fulhampalace.org

The home of the Bishops of London from the 8th century until 1973, the oldest surviving parts of Fulham Palace date from the 15th century. The palace stands in its own landscaped gardens. A restoration project completed in 2007 revealed a grand, long-hidden Rococo ceiling. Plans are in place to redevelop the site during 2018.

44 Chelsea Harbour

SW10. ☞ Fulham Broadway.
 Exhibitions.

This is an impressive development of modern apartments, shops, offices, restaurants, a hotel and a marina. It is near the site of Cremorne Pleasure Gardens, which closed in 1877 after more than 40 years as a venue for dances and circuses. The centrepiece is the Belvedere, a 20-storey apartment tower with an external glass lift and a pyramid roof, topped with a golden ball on a rod that rises and falls with the tide.

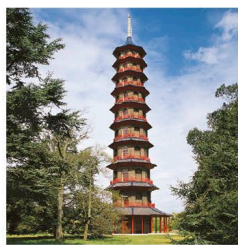


Fulham Palace's entrance, which dates from Tudor times

39 Kew Gardens

The Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, the most complete public gardens in the world, are a World Heritage Site. Their reputation was first established by Sir Joseph Banks, the British naturalist and plant hunter, who worked here in the late 18th century.

The former royal gardens were given to the nation in 1841 and now display about 30,000 plants. Garden enthusiasts will want a full day to visit. Kew is also a centre for scientific research.



★ Pagoda

William Chambers' pagoda, built in 1762, reflects the fashion of the time.

KEY

- ① Cherry Walk
- ② The Temperate House
- ③ Waterlily Pond
- ④ Queen Charlotte's Cottage
- ⑤ River Thames
- ⑥ Sackler Crossing
- ⑦ Marianne North Gallery
- ⑧ King William's Temple
- ⑨ Azalea Garden
- ⑩ Climbers and Creepers soft play area
- ⑪ Kew Palace
- ⑫ Nash Conservatory
- ⑬ The Orangery restaurant
- ⑭ Duke's Garden
- ⑮ Princess of Wales Conservatory
Encompassing ten climatic zones, this glasshouse contains cacti, giant waterlilies and orchids.
- ⑯ Davies Alpine House
- ⑰ Rock Garden
- ⑱ Winter Garden
- ⑲ Campanile
- ⑳ Rose Garden
- ㉑ Crocus carpet
- ㉒ Temple of Bellona
- ㉓ Great Broad Walk Borders

Princess Augusta

King George III's mother established the first garden on a 9-acre (3.6-ha) site here in 1759.



Lion Gate entrance



★ Rhizotron and Xstrata Treetop Walkway

This 200-m (660-ft) walkway meanders through the tree canopy and offers fine views.



Minka House

This minka, a traditional wooden Japanese house, built around 1900, was shipped from Japan and reconstructed in the Bamboo Garden in 2001.

VISITORS' CHECKLIST

Practical Information

Royal Botanic Gardens,
Kew Green, Richmond, TW9 3AB

Tel 020 8332 5655, www.kew.org

Open 10am daily; closing times vary: mid-Feb–Mar: 5:30pm daily; Apr–Aug: 6:30pm Mon–Fri, 7:30pm Sat, Sun & public hols; Sep–Oct: 6pm daily; Nov–mid-Feb: 4:15pm daily; glasshouses & exhibitions close 30 mins before closing. Queen Charlotte's Cottage: Apr–Sep: 11am–4pm Sat, Sun & public hols. **Closed** 24 & 25 Dec. (under-17s free).

♿ 11am & 1:30pm daily, included in ticket price. Tours start at Victoria Plaza by Victoria Gate. 📱 📺 📷

Transport

🚶 Kew Gardens. 🚶 Kew Bridge, Kew Gardens.



★ Palm House

Designed by Decimus Burton in the 1840s, this famous jewel of Victorian engineering houses exotic plants in tropical conditions.



SIX GUIDED WALKS

London is an excellent city for walkers. Although it is much more spread out than most European capitals, many of the main tourist attractions are fairly close to each other (see pp16–17). Central London is full of parks and gardens (see pp52–5), and there are also several walk routes plotted by the tourist board and local history societies. These include footpaths along canals and the Thames. The Silver Jubilee Walkway was planned in 1977 to commemorate the Queen's Silver Jubilee and runs for 19 km (12 miles) between Lambeth Bridge in the west and Tower Bridge in the east. Visit London (see p358) has maps of the route, which is marked by silver-coloured plaques sunk into the pavement at intervals.

Each of the 16 areas described in the *Area by Area* section of this book has a short walk marked on its *Street-by-Street* map. These walks will take you past many of the most interesting sights in that area. On the following 12 pages are routes for six walks that take you through areas of London not covered in detail elsewhere. These range from the bustling, fashionable King's Road (see pp272–3) to the wide open spaces of riverside Richmond and Kew (see pp274–5).

Several companies offer guided walking tours of London. Most of these have themes, such as ghosts, Jack the Ripper or Shakespeare's London. Check listings magazines (see p338) for details.

The Six Walks

This map shows the location of the six guided walks in relation to the main sightseeing areas of London.



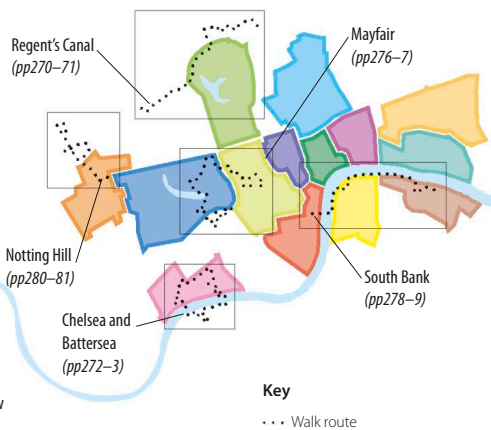
Strand on the Green, Kew



Portobello Road, Notting Hill

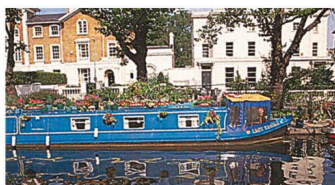


0 kilometres 4
0 miles 2



A Two-Hour Walk Along the Regent's Canal

Master builder John Nash wanted the Regent's Canal to pass through Regent's Park, but instead it circles the northern border of the park. Opened in 1820, it is long defunct as a commercial waterway but popular with cyclists and walkers. This walk starts at Little Venice and ends at Camden Lock Market, diverting to take in the view from Primrose Hill. For more details on sights near Regent's Canal, see pages 224–31.



③ Houseboat on the canal



③ Houseboats moored at Little Venice

From Little Venice to Lisson Grove

At Warwick Avenue station ①, take the left-hand exit and walk straight to the traffic lights by the canal bridge at Blomfield Road. Turn right and descend to the canal through an iron gate ② opposite No. 42, marked "Lady Rose of Regent". The pretty basin with moored narrow boats is Little Venice ③. At the foot of the steps, turn left to walk back beneath the blue iron bridge ④. You soon have to climb up to street level again because this stretch of the towpath is reserved for access to the barges. Cross Edgware Road and walk down Aberdeen Place.

Tips for Walkers

Starting point: Warwick Avenue Underground station.

Length: 5 km (3 miles).

Getting there: Warwick Avenue and Camden Town Underground stations are at either end of the walk. Both are on many bus routes.

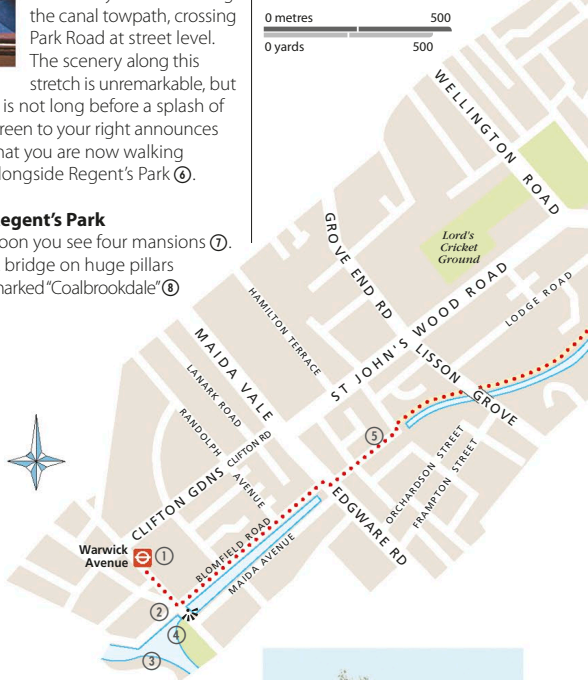
Stopping-off points: Crocker's Folly with its lavishly refurbished Victorian marble interior, The Queens and The Princess of Wales (corner of Fitzroy and Chalcot Rds) are good pubs. At the junction of Edgware Road and Aberdeen Place is Café Laville. Camden Town has many cafés, restaurants and sandwich shops.

When the road turns to the left by a pub, Crocker's Folly ⑤, follow the sign-posted Canal Way down to the side of some modern flats. Continue your route along the canal towpath, crossing Park Road at street level. The scenery along this stretch is unremarkable, but

it is not long before a splash of green to your right announces that you are now walking alongside Regent's Park ⑥.

Regent's Park

Soon you see four mansions ⑦. A bridge on huge pillars marked "Coalbrookdale" ⑧



Key

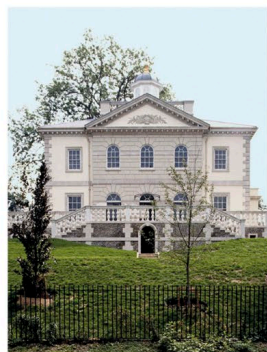
• • • Walk route

0 metres 500
0 yards 500

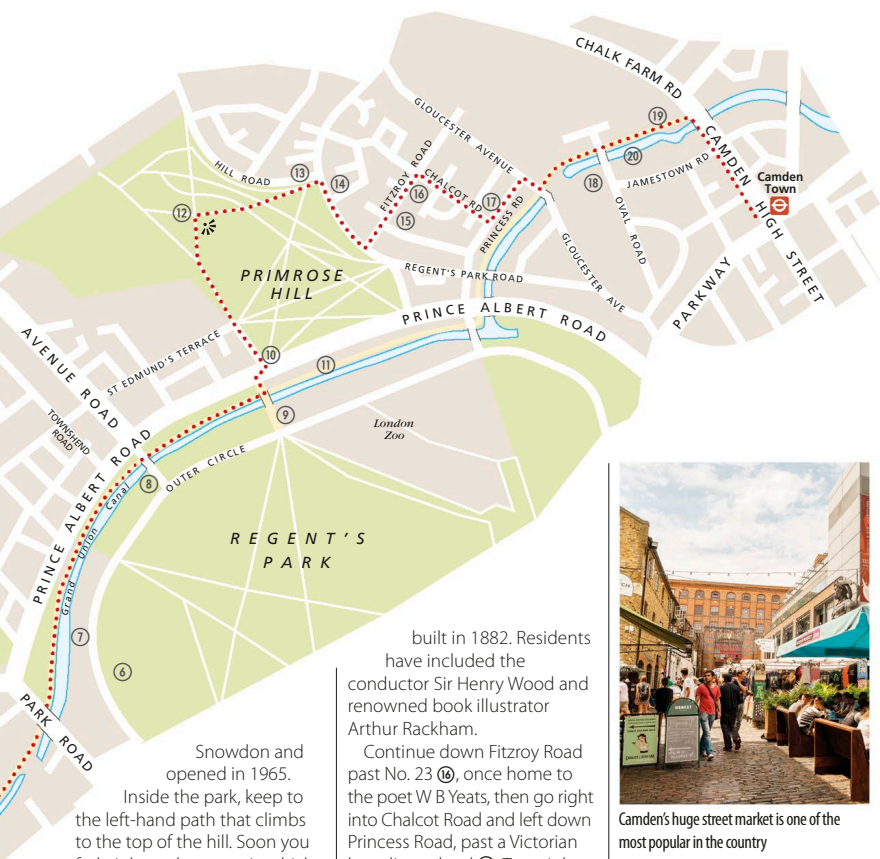
carries Avenue Road into the park. Cross the next bridge, with London Zoo ⑨ on your right, then turn left up a slope. A few steps later, take the right fork, and turn left to cross Prince Albert Road. Turn right before entering Primrose Hill through a gate ⑩ on your left.

Primrose Hill

From here, there is a view of the zoo aviary ⑪, designed by Lord



⑦ Mansion with riverside gardens



Snowdon and opened in 1965.

Inside the park, keep to the left-hand path that climbs to the top of the hill. Soon you fork right to the summit, which offers a fine view of the city skyline. A viewing panel ⑫ helps identify the landmarks but it does not include the 1990 skyscraper at Canary Wharf, with its pyramid crown, on the left. Descend on the left, making for the park gate at the junction of Regent's Park Road and Primrose Hill Road.

Towards Camden

Almost opposite the gate is The Queens ⑬, a Victorian pub, and just to the left is No. 122 Regent's Park Road ⑭. This was for 24 years the home of the Communist philosopher Friedrich Engels; he was often visited there by his friend Karl Marx.

Turn right and walk down Regent's Park Road for 135 m (150 yd) then turn left up Fitzroy Road. On the right, between Nos. 41 and 39, is the entrance to Primrose Hill Studios ⑮,

built in 1882. Residents have included the conductor Sir Henry Wood and renowned book illustrator Arthur Rackham.

Continue down Fitzroy Road past No. 23 ⑯, once home to the poet W B Yeats, then go right into Chalcot Road and left down Princess Road, past a Victorian boarding school ⑰. Turn right and rejoin the canal down steps across Gloucester Avenue. Turn left under the railway bridge and past the Pirate Castle ⑱, a water sports centre. Cross a humpback bridge and enter Camden Lock Market ⑲ (see



Camden's huge street market is one of the most popular in the country

pp335–6) through an arch on your left. After browsing there, you can take the water bus ⑳ back to Little Venice or turn right into Chalk Farm Road and walk up to Camden Town Underground station.



Kayaking on the canal at Camden Lock

A Three-Hour Walk in Chelsea and Battersea

This delightful circular walk ambles through the grounds of the Royal Hospital Chelsea and across the river to Battersea Park, with its Victorian landscaping. It then returns to the narrow village streets of Chelsea and the stylish shops on the King's Road. For more detail on sights in Chelsea, see pages 196–201.

Sloane Square to Battersea Park

From the station ①, turn left and walk down Holbein Place. The Renaissance painter's connection with Chelsea stems from his friendship with Sir Thomas More, who lived nearby. Pass the cluster of antique shops

② as you turn on to Royal Hospital Road. Enter the grounds of the Royal Hospital Chelsea ③, designed by Christopher Wren, and turn left into Ranelagh Gardens ④. The small pavilion by John Soane ⑤ displays a history of the area as Georgian pleasure gardens – it was the most fashionable meeting place for London society. Leave the gardens

for fine views of the hospital and Grinling Gibbons's bronze of Charles II ⑥. The granite obelisk ⑦ commemorates the 1849 battle at Chillianwalla, in what is now Pakistan, and forms the centre-piece of the main marquee at the Chelsea Flower Show (see p60).

Battersea Park

When crossing the Chelsea Bridge ⑧ (1937), look up to see four gilded galleons on top of the pillars at each end. Turn into Battersea Park ⑨ (see p257), one of London's liveliest, and follow the main path along the river to enjoy the excellent views of Chelsea. Turn left at the Buddhist Peace Pagoda ⑩ to enter the main part of the park.

Past the bowling greens are Henry Moore's sculpture of *Three Standing Figures* ⑪ (1948) and the lake, a favoured spot for wildfowl. (There are boats for hire.) Just beyond the sculpture, head northwest and, after crossing the central avenue, fork right and make for the wooden gate into the rustic Old English Garden ⑫. Leave the garden by the metal gate and return to Chelsea via the Victorian Albert Bridge ⑬.



③ Royal Hospital



⑥ Charles II statue at the Royal Hospital

Tips for Walkers

Starting point: Sloane Square.

Length: 6.5 km (4 miles).

Getting there: Sloane Square is the nearest Tube. There are frequent buses 11, 19, 22 and 349 to Sloane Square and along the King's Road. Royal Hospital Chelsea grounds are open 10am–6pm Mon–Sat, 2–6pm Sun.

Stopping-off points: There is a café in Battersea Park, by the lake. Cheyne Walk Brasserie, on Cheyne Walk, serves upmarket Provençal food. There are plenty of pubs, restaurants and sandwich shops to be found along the King's Road. The Chelsea Farmers Market on Sydney Street has several cafés.



⑫ Old English Garden in Battersea Park



Thomas Carlyle statue (15)

carving by Jacob Epstein. Just beyond these is the medieval

The Backstreets of Chelsea

Over the bridge is David Wynne's sculpture of a boy and dolphin (14) (1975). Pass the sought-after residences on Cheyne Walk and the statues of historian Thomas Carlyle (15) and Sir Thomas More (16) – this area was renowned for gatherings of intellectuals. Past Chelsea Old Church (17) is Roper's Gardens (18) with its

Crosby Hall (19). On Justice Walk (20) are two early Georgian houses – Duke's House and Monmouth House. Turn left to pass the site of the Chelsea porcelain factory (21), which used to make highly fashionable (and today highly collectable) wares in the late 18th century. Glebe Place (22)



(13) Albert Bridge

has retained much of its original character. Where Glebe Place meets the King's Road are three early 18th-century houses (23). Cross Dovehouse Green, which used to be a burial ground, to Chelsea Farmers Market (24), an enclave of cafés and craft shops.

The King's Road

Leave the market on Sydney Street and cross into the garden of St Luke's Church (25), where Charles Dickens was married in 1836. The walk then winds through quaint back streets until it rejoins the King's Road (26) (see p.200), which was very fashionable in the 1960s. On the left is The Pheasantry (27). Look down the side streets on both left and right to see Wellington Square (28), then Royal Avenue (29), intended as a triumphal way to the Royal Hospital Chelsea, and Blacklands Terrace (30), where book-lovers will want to visit John Sandoe's shop. The Duke of York's Territorial Headquarters (31) (1803) on the right – now home to the Saatchi Gallery – marks the approach to Sloane Square (32) and the Royal Court Theatre (see Sloane Square p.201).



(32) Royal Court Theatre

A 90-Minute Walk Around Richmond and Kew

This delightful riverside walk begins in historic Richmond, by the remains of Henry VII's once splendid palace, and ends at Kew, Britain's premier botanic garden. For more detail on the sights in Richmond and Kew, turn to pages 258–67.

Richmond Green

From Richmond station ①, proceed to Oriel House ②, which is practically opposite. Take the alleyway beneath it, and turn left towards the red-brick and terracotta Richmond Theatre ③, built in 1899. The remarkable Edmund Kean, whose brief, meteoric career in the early 19th century had a lasting impact on English acting, was closely associated with the previous theatre on the site. Opposite is Richmond Green ④. Cross it diagonally and go through the entrance arch ⑤ of the old Tudor palace, which is adorned with the arms of Henry VII.

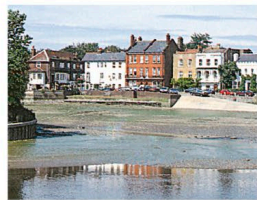
Richmond

Richmond owes much of its importance – as well as its name – to Henry VII, victor of the Wars of the Roses and the first Tudor monarch. On becoming king in 1485 he spent a lot of time at an earlier residence on this site, Sheen Palace, dating from the 12th century. The palace burned down in 1499 and Henry had it rebuilt, naming it Richmond after the town in Yorkshire where he held an earldom. In 1603, Henry's granddaughter, Elizabeth I, died here. The houses inside the archway on the left contain remnants, much modified, of the 16th-century buildings.

Leave Old Palace Yard at the right-hand corner ⑥, following a sign “To the River”, and turn left to pass the White Swan pub ⑦. At the river, go right along the towpath under the iron railway bridge and then the concrete Twickenham Bridge ⑧, completed in 1933, to reach Richmond Lock ⑨, with its cast-iron footbridge built in 1894. The Thames is tidal as far as Teddington, some 5 km (3 miles) upstream, and the lock is used to make the river continuously navigable.

The Riverside

Do not cross the bridge but continue along the wooded path by the river to Isleworth Ait ⑩, a large island where herons may be standing warily on the riverbank. Just beyond it, on the far shore, is All Saints' Church ⑪, whose 15th-century tower has survived several rebuildings, most recently in the 1960s. Further round the inlet, Isleworth ⑫, once a small riverside village with a busy harbour, is now a dormitory suburb of central London. Here, there is river traffic to watch: barges, yachts and, in summer, the passenger boats that ply upriver to Hampton Court (see pp260–63). Rowers are out at most times of



The river at low tide

year, training for races. The most prestigious occasions are the Henley Regatta in July and the Oxford v Cambridge Boat Race, every spring from Putney to Mortlake (see p60).



Key

... Walk route



③ Richmond Theatre

Kew

After a while, the appearance of iron railings on your right marks where Old Deer Park ⑮ turns into Kew Gardens ⑭ (officially called the Royal Botanic Gardens – see pp266–7). There used to be a riverside entrance for visitors arriving on foot or by water, but the gate ⑮ is now



⑲ Kew Palace in Kew Gardens

out in the 18th century. Just beyond are modern waterside apartments at Brentford ⑰. This was originally an industrial suburb, sited where the Grand Union Canal runs into the Thames, and its residential potential has only more recently been exploited. You can pick out the tall chimney of the waterworks ⑱, now a museum dedicated to steam power. On the right, behind the Kew Gardens car park, there is a view of Kew Palace ⑲, now fully restored and open to the public.

Beyond the car park, leave the river by Ferry Lane, which leads to Kew Green ⑳. You could spend the rest of the day in Kew Gardens or cross Kew Bridge and turn right on to Strand on the Green ㉑, a fine riverside walkway with atmospheric pubs, the oldest of them the City Barge ㉒. Head south down Kew Road, then turn left at Kew Gardens Road to reach Kew Gardens Underground station (District line).

Tips for Walkers

Starting point: Richmond station.

Length: 5 km (3 miles).

Getting there: Richmond Underground or railway station. Buses 391 and R68 come here from Kew.

Stopping-off points: There are several cafés, pubs and tearooms in Richmond. The famous Original Maids of Honour tearoom is at Kew, and Kew Grill is one of many good eateries on Kew Green.



closed and the nearest entrance is to the north, near the car park. Across the river, there are magnificent views of Syon House ⑮, seat of the Dukes of Northumberland since 1594. Part of the present house dates from the 16th century but it was largely redesigned by Robert Adam in the 1760s. You are looking at it across the garden Capability Brown laid



A beautiful show of blooms at Kew Gardens

A Two-Hour Walk Through Mayfair to Belgravia

This walk takes you from Green Park to Hyde Park, through the hearts of Mayfair and Belgravia, two of London's most elegant Georgian residential districts. It includes a bracing stroll through Hyde Park and, if you're feeling energetic, a row on the Serpentine.



⑦ L'Artiste Musclé restaurant, Shepherd Market, Mayfair

Green Park to Berkeley Square

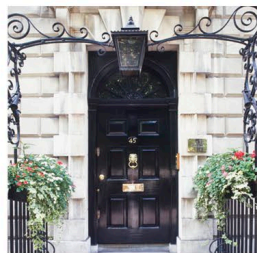
Exit Green Park station ① following the signs for Piccadilly North. With Green Park opposite you, turn left. Pass Devonshire House ②, a 1920s office block that replaced the 18th-century mansion designed by William Kent. Only Kent's gates survive, now at the park entrance across Piccadilly. Turn left and walk up Berkeley Street to Berkeley Square ③. To the south, the remains of Lansdowne House by Robert Adam are now occupied by an advertising agency ④. There are still a few splendid 18th-century houses to the west, including No. 45 ⑤,

home of the soldier and governor, Lord Clive of India.

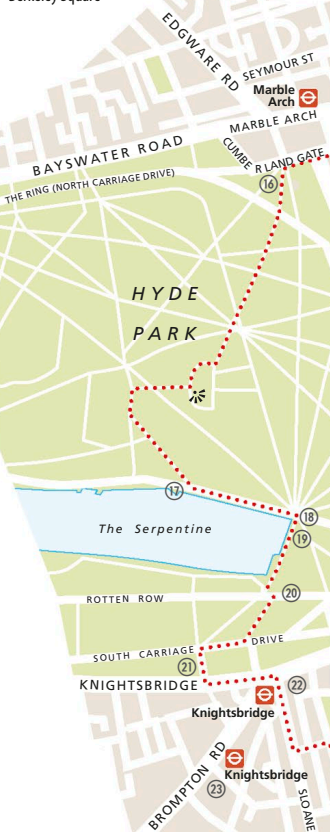
Mayfair

Keep to the south of the square and turn into Charles Street, noting the evocative lampholders at Nos. 40 and 41 ⑥. Turn left into Queen Street and cross Curzon Street to enter Shepherd Market ⑦ (see p101) through Curzonfield House alleyway. Turn right up a pedestrian-only street then right onto Hertford Street, passing the Curzon Cinema ⑧ on the corner of Curzon Street. Here you are almost facing Crewe House ⑨, built in 1730 by Edward Shepherd, who also laid out the market.

Turn left and walk up Curzon Street, then turn right onto Chesterfield Street. A left turn at Charles Street brings you to Red Lion Yard ⑩, where a pub stands opposite one of the few weatherboarded buildings in the West End. Turn right into Hay's Mews and left up Chesterfield Hill. Cross Hill Street and South Street and head left until you reach an alley leading to the peaceful haven of Mount Street Gardens ⑪. The gardens back on to the Church of the Immaculate Conception ⑫. Cross the garden and turn left onto Mount Street; then right onto South Audley Street and left at Grosvenor Square ⑬ into Upper Grosvenor Street, passing to the left of what was until 2017 the US



③ Grand Georgian doorway in Berkeley Square



Tips for Walkers

Starting point: Green Park station.

Length: 5 km (3 miles).

Getting there: Green Park is on the Victoria, Jubilee and Piccadilly Underground lines. Hyde Park Corner is on the Piccadilly line.

Stopping-off points: There are numerous pubs, cafés and restaurants in the area. Serpentine Bar and Kitchen on the Serpentine is open 8am–9pm.



Mount Street Gardens behind beautiful Georgian buildings

Embassy building. Turn right up Park Lane and walk along what was once the city's most desirable residential street, before the traffic got so heavy (14). At the end you can see Marble Arch (see p213).

Hyde Park

Enter the pedestrian subway (15) at exit No. 6 and follow signs for Park Lane West Side, exit No. 5. You will emerge at Speakers' Corner (16) (see p213), where on Sundays anyone can make a speech on any topic. Cross Hyde



(17) The Serpentine, on a fine day

Park (see p213) south-southwest, enjoying the views on all sides, and make for the boat house (17) on the Serpentine (an artificial lake created by Queen Caroline in 1730), where you can rent a rowing boat. Turn left and follow the path to Serpentine Bar and Kitchen (18) for refreshments. From there, take the stone bridge (19) and cross Rotten Row (20), where the very wealthy

exercise their horses. Leave the park at Edinburgh Gate (21).

Knightsbridge

Cross Knightsbridge and, resisting the temptations of two of London's great department stores – Harvey Nichols (22) and Harrods (23) (see p213) on Brompton Road – head down Sloane Street to turn left at Harriet Street. At Lowndes Square, turn right and leave the square on the far side, turning left into Motcomb Street. On your left is the Pantechnicon, an eccentric structure fronted by colossal Doric columns, built in 1830.

Belgravia

Turn left out of the arcade onto Kinnerton Street, which boasts one of London's smallest pubs, the Nag's Head (24). A pretty mew runs off to the left of this street at its northern end; look for Ann's Close and Kinnerton Place North. Almost opposite the latter, the street makes a sharp right turn to emerge into Wilton Place opposite St Paul's Church (1843). Turn right here and follow Wilton Crescent round to the left before turning left into Wilton Row, where there is another small pub, the Grenadier (25), once the officers' mess of the Guards' barracks and reputedly frequented by the Duke of Wellington. Up Old Barracks Yard to the right of the pub there are some old officers' billets and a worn stone said to have been used by the Iron Duke when mounting his horses. The alley leads to a T-junction. To finish the walk, turn left and walk around the building in front of you to reach Knightsbridge. Turn right and continue to Hyde Park Corner station.



Key

... Walk route

0 metres 400
0 yards 400



(25) Once the officers' mess, now the Grenadier pub, Belgravia

A 90-Minute Walk Along the South Bank

The Riverside Walk along the South Bank from Westminster Bridge (see p189) via Bankside to Southwark Cathedral is one of the most entertaining excursions in town. From County Hall to Shakespeare's Globe, the South Bank's well-known music, theatre and film venues, the shops and galleries of Gabriel's Wharf and the Oxo Tower, there's something for everyone. For more details on the sights in Southwark and Bankside, see pages 176–87.



14 Cafés and shops at Gabriel's Wharf

The Southbank Centre

Begin at Westminster station ① by the statue of the Iceni warrior Queen Boudicca (or Boadicea), and walk over Westminster Bridge. Once on the south side ②, there is a fine view back over the river to the Houses of Parliament (see pp76–7). The main building on this side is the former County Hall ③, now offering a range of entertainment (see p192), the highlight being the Sea Life London Aquarium ④, a fascinating underwater world. For the best city view, the London Eye ⑤ (see p193) is



beside Jubilee Gardens ④, where buskers and mime artists perform. Walk past Hungerford Bridge ⑦ with its Golden Jubilee footbridges either side and trains to Charing Cross Station, on the site of the former Hungerford market. Ahead is the Southbank Centre ⑧ (see pp190–91), the capital's main arts showcase. Music and exhibitions fill the Royal Festival Hall ⑨ (see p192), created for the Festival of Britain in 1951. Next are the Queen Elizabeth Hall ⑩ and Hayward Gallery (see p192). Moving on along the Riverside Walk, past Waterloo Bridge, you reach BFI Southbank ⑪

(see p343), where films are shown throughout the day. Outside its lively café, rows of tables stacked with second-hand books shelter beneath the bridge. The National Theatre ⑫ (see p192) has exhibitions and musical events as well as a good bookshop. You can see into the set-building areas from the windows at the back and the walkway near the Dorfman Theatre. Several of the theatre's restaurants, cafés and bars offer outside seating overlooking

Tips for Walkers

Starting point: Westminster Bridge.

Length: 2.75 km (1.75 miles).

Getting there: Westminster Underground station on the District, Circle and Jubilee lines.

Stopping off points: All the South Bank's art centres have cafés, bars and restaurants. There are places to eat in Gabriel's Wharf and great food stalls at Borough, where there is also Brindisa for tapas and a good pub, The Rake.



View from the Oxo Tower 15

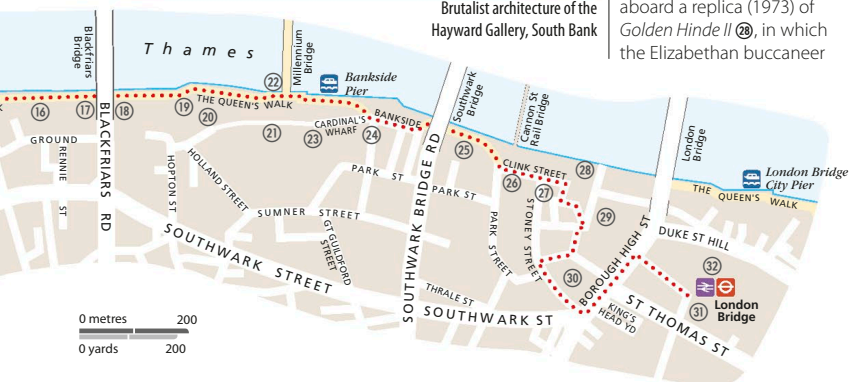


Brutalist architecture of the Hayward Gallery, South Bank

(see p181). A tour around the theatre is the next best thing to attending a performance.

Bankside

Bankside becomes more cramped here, as the historic streets pass The Anchor 25 riverside pub to reach the Clink Prison Museum 26 (see p186), on the site of one of London's first lock-ups. The Rose Window on Clink Street 27 is all that is left of the Bishop of Winchester's Palace. At St Mary Ovarie Dock, climb aboard a replica (1973) of Golden Hinde II 28, in which the Elizabethan buccaneer



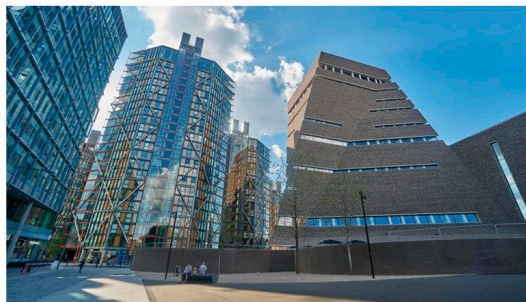
the South Bank. Past the London Studios (ITV) 13 is Gabriel's Wharf 14 (see p195), a pleasant diversion with its art and craft shops and lively cafés.

Following the Queen's Walk

The next landmark you come to is the Oxo Tower 15, a red-brick industrial building with galleries and independent designer shops. The top of the tower provides an excellent, free view of the city. Pass by Sea Containers House 16, decorated with gold trimmings (built as a hotel, but now offices), and Doggett's Coat and Badge pub 17 (see p67), then walk under Blackfriars Bridge 18, emerging by the remaining piers and railway emblem of a former bridge. Alongside Blackfriars Bridge is Blackfriars railway station, its platforms suspended over the river. On the right, opposite the Founders Arms 19, is the esteemed Bankside Gallery 20 (see p181), which has regular

exhibitions of its members' work. Behind it on Holland Street is Marcus Campbell, an excellent art bookshop, a stone's throw from Tate Modern 21 (see pp182–5), the best free show on the river. Drop in for a coffee if nothing else. The Millennium Bridge 22 leads over to St Paul's (see pp152–5) and the City. Its architect Sir Christopher Wren had a house in Cardinal's Wharf 23, where he had a good view of it. Next door to his house is Shakespeare's Globe theatre 24

Sir Francis Drake became the second man to circumnavigate the world. Southwark Cathedral 29 (see p180) is a quiet place to end the walk, with a good tea shop. Or, if you still feel energetic, explore Borough Market 30 (see p180) overlooked by London's highest landmark, The Shard 31. Either ascend to the top (see p187) or have a drink in one of the stylish bars, such as Aqua Shard on level 31, before heading to the Tube or train at London Bridge station 32.



21 Tate Modern: a vast space for contemporary British art

A Two-Hour Walk Around Notting Hill

This walk centres on Portobello Road, the city's most famous antiques and bric-a-brac shopping area, in one of the ultra-fashionable parts of London. Great for original souvenirs, the neighbourhood is fascinating at any time, though the streets are busiest on Fridays and Saturdays, when all the shops are open and the market stalls set up (see page 337). This is the heart of Notting Hill, renowned for its lively carnival.



⑤ Bright paintwork on Portobello Road

Portobello Road

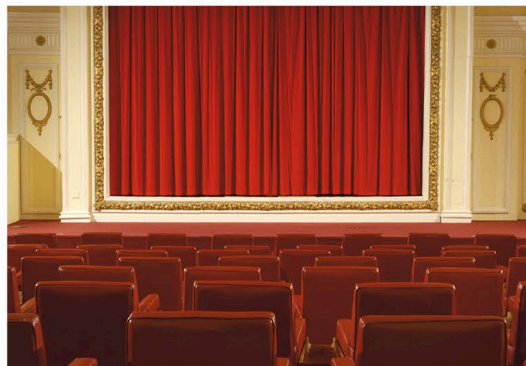
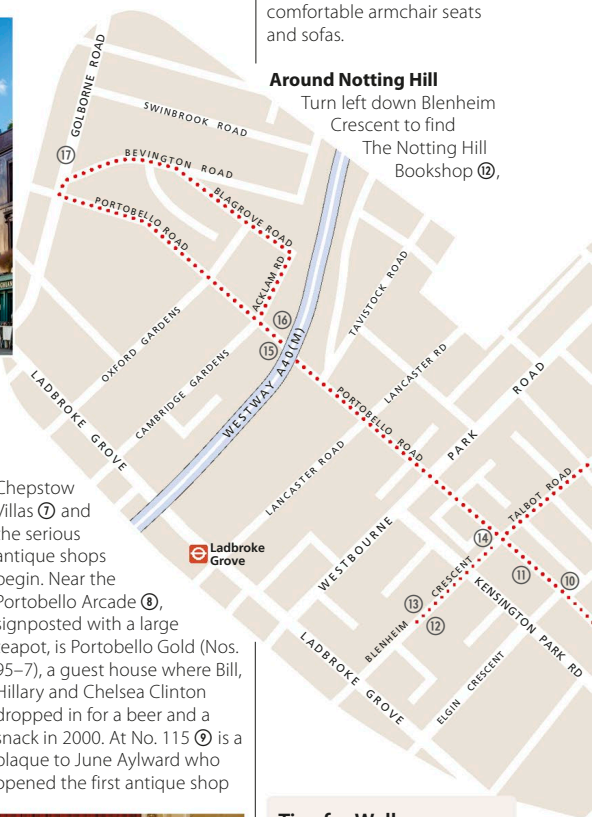
Leaving Notting Hill Gate Tube station ①, follow the signs to Portobello Road (see p223), taking Pembridge Road ②. Intriguing shops here include Retro Woman ③ (Nos. 20 and 32) and Retro Man ④ (No. 34) for period clothes and accessories. At the Sun in Splendour pub ⑤, turn left into Portobello Road. No. 22, among the attractively painted terraced houses on the right, was where George Orwell lived in 1927 before his writing career began ⑥. Cross

Chepstow Villas ⑦ and the serious antique shops begin. Near the Portobello Arcade ⑧, signposted with a large teapot, is Portobello Gold (Nos. 95–7), a guest house where Bill, Hillary and Chelsea Clinton dropped in for a beer and a snack in 2000. At No. 115 ⑨ is a plaque to June Aylward who opened the first antique shop

in the street. At Colville Terrace ⑩, the daily fruit and vegetable market begins. On the left is the Electric Cinema ⑪, said to be the oldest working cinema in Britain (1910), and certainly one of the most delightful. If there is no film showing, you can go in and try the comfortable armchair seats and sofas.

Around Notting Hill

Turn left down Blenheim Crescent to find The Notting Hill Bookshop ⑫,



⑪ The Electric Cinema, the UK's oldest working cinema

Tips for Walkers

Starting point: Notting Hill Gate station.

Length: 3 km (2 miles).

Getting there: Notting Hill underground station on Central, District and Circle lines.

Stopping-off points: The area is known for its pubs and restaurants. Try Ottolenghi's Patisserie at 63 Ledbury Rd for superb pastries or the café at Books for Cooks, 4 Blenheim Crescent. Arancina, 19 Pembridge Rd, near Notting Hill Gate Tube station, is good for a quick slice of pizza and other Italian snacks.

formerly The Travel Bookshop, a location of the 1999 film *Notting Hill*, starring Hugh Grant and Julia Roberts. Books for Cooks 19 (No. 4) stocks thousands of cookbooks, from which recipes are prepared and served in the inhouse café. Head back to Portobello Road and pass the local Salvation Army centre 14. Beyond the Westway fly-over, other sections of the market operate on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays: Portobello Green market 15 has vintage fashions and bric-a-brac (with new fashions on Saturdays); Acklam Village Market 16, 4–8 Acklam Road, is the place to



22 Ottolenghi Patisserie display

Saints' Church 18 has a glassed-in shrine to Our Lady of Walsingham (a pilgrimage destination in the county of Norfolk) – an unusual feature in a Protestant church. Just beyond the red-brick Tabernacle Arts Centre 19, where Pink Floyd performed in 1966, is My

Beautiful Laundrette 20, named after the successful 1986 film. Turn right into Ledbury Road to find high fashion shops. At the end of the road is the still-functioning Westbourne Grove Church 21. As you are passing No. 63, try the delicious pastries in Ottolenghi Patisserie 22. Turn right into Westbourne Grove for more stylish shopping. Dinny Hall 23 at No. 200 stocks award-winning jewellery. Just opposite is the renowned florist Wild at Heart 24, full of beautiful bouquets. On the far side is the Oxfam charity shop 25, where the bargains reflect the good taste of the locals. Head back to Portobello Road 26 to return to Notting Hill Gate Tube station.



24 Award-winning Wild at Heart flower stall

go for street food stalls. The Golborne Road Flea Market 17 sets up on Fridays and Saturdays, and the Portuguese cafés (especially the Lisboa at No. 55) are bustling. From Golborne Road, turn right into Bevington Road, right along Blagrove Road and right again into Acklam Road to bring you back to Portobello Road. Continue for several blocks, turning left on Talbot Road, where All



Key

... Walk route

0 metres 200
0 yards 200







TRAVELLERS' NEEDS

Where to Stay	284-291
Where to Eat and Drink	292-315
Shops and Markets	316-337
Entertainment	338-351
Children's London	352-355

WHERE TO STAY

The high cost of accommodation in London is one of the biggest drawbacks for visitors. At the top end of the market, there is no shortage of expensive pedigree hotels, such as Claridge's and the Ritz. Mid-range hotels, while there are many, tend to be slightly further out from the centre, and budget hotels are few and far between, thanks to rising property prices. However, there are ways to stay in the capital without breaking the bank. Low-cost hotel chains have establishments in convenient locations

throughout the city, many concentrated in the centre of town, offering good-quality accommodation at affordable prices. If you don't need a hotel's facilities, consider self-catering apartments or private homes (*see pp286–7*), an increasingly popular option available at a wide range of prices. The accommodation choices on the pages that follow offer something to suit a range of budgets and tastes, and represent the very best places to stay in and just outside of the city.

Where to Look

The most expensive hotels tend to be in smart West End areas such as Mayfair and Belgravia. Often large and opulent, with uniformed staff, they are great for those seeking luxury accommodation. Slightly smaller hotels, nonetheless providing superb comfort and service, can be found in South Kensington or Holland Park. Several hotels have sprung up around the South Bank offering good mid-range chain options in a central position.

The streets off Earls Court Road are full of hotels at the lower end of the price range. Several of the big railway stations are in locations well served with budget hotels. Try Ebury Street near Victoria, or Sussex Gardens near Paddington. Close to Euston or Waterloo and in the

City and Docklands, well-known hotel chains cater for travellers at a range of prices.

There are also inexpensive hotels in London's suburbs, such as Ealing, Hendon, Richmond or Harrow. From here, you can get into town on public transport, including suburban rail line services. Be sure to check the times of the last train service leaving central London.

If you get stranded at an airport or have to catch an early morning flight, check-in to a hotel near the airport (*see p373*). For further information, advice and reservation services, go to www.visitlondon.com, which publishes several annually updated booklets on the different types of accommodation available in Greater London. See our Recommended Hotels (p287) section for more ideas.

Discount Rates

Prices in the capital tend to stay high all year round, but there are bargains to be found. Online price comparison sites will often provide you with the best deals on hotel rooms and package deals. Many hotels, especially the chains, also offer reduced rates for weekends (especially Sundays) and special breaks (*see p286*). Others work on a more ad hoc basis, depending on how busy they are. It is always worth trying to negotiate a discount, especially if it is off-season.

Hidden Extras

Read the small print carefully. Most hotels quote room rates rather than rates per person, but not all. Service charges and VAT are usually included in the quoted price but in some cases they are added on later, which means that the final bill can come as a shock to visitors. Also be aware of high mark-ups on telephone calls made in your hotel room and additional fees for Wi-Fi access. Breakfast may not be included in room rates, though it generally is in cheaper hotels. Most hotels expect visitors to vacate rooms by noon (sometimes earlier) on the day of departure and may charge extra for late checkout.

Single travellers are usually charged a supplement and end up paying about 80 per cent of the double room rate, even if they are occupying a



Comfortable foyer area in Charlotte Street hotel (*see p288*)

single room – so don't accept anything substandard.

Tipping is expected in the more expensive hotels, but there is no need to tip staff other than porters, except perhaps a helpful concierge for arranging theatre tickets or phoning for taxis.

Facilities

Room sizes in London hotels tend to be on the small side whatever the price range, but the majority of hotels provide telephones, televisions and private baths or showers in all their rooms. At the top end of the scale, hotels compete to offer the very latest sound and video systems, computer equipment and high-tech gadgetry. Most hotel rooms come equipped with Wi-Fi.

How to Book

Hotels rooms in Central London do get booked up very quickly so it is always advisable to reserve your accommodation well in advance. Direct bookings can be made by phone, via the hotel website booking form or by email. This generally entails giving a guarantee: either a credit card number from which a cancellation fee can be deducted, or a one-night deposit (some hotels will expect more for longer stays). Don't forget that if you do cancel, part or even all of the room price may be charged unless the

hotel is able to re-let the accommodation. Insurance cover is advised.

Online booking is the easiest way to book hotels, with the best prices often only available via the internet. Many hotels have their own online advance purchase rate while internet travel sites, holiday retailers and hotel wholesalers such as Expedia (www.expedia.co.uk) and Travel Republic (www.travelrepublic.co.uk) quote good rates, particularly if you book a hotel and flight together.

The visitlondon.com website has an excellent guide to finding accommodation in London, from self-catered apartments and budget hostels to luxury hotels. To make a booking by phone, call 020 3564 5657. The British Hotel Reservation Centre in Victoria railway station is also useful. A number of commercial booking agencies operate from booths in the major railway stations, charging a small fee to personal callers. Avoid unidentified touts, who often hang around at railway and coach stations offering cheap accommodation.

Special Breaks

Many travel agencies carry brochures from the major hotel chains listing special offers, which are usually costed on a minimum two-night stay. Some are extraordinarily good value compared to the usual tariff. For most leisure travellers or families with children, this is the best way to get value for money out of London hotels.

City-break packages are organized by specialist operators, ferry companies and airlines, and some hotels. Sometimes the same hotel may feature in several brochures at differing prices and with different perks. It's worth asking the hotel directly what special rates they offer. As previously mentioned, online travel websites are also an excellent source for great-value holiday packages.



Impeccably stylish interior at Hotel 41 (see p290)

Disabled Travellers

Information about wheelchair access is based largely on hotels' own assessments, so disabled travellers should always confirm when booking whether an establishment is suitable. If forewarned, many hotels will go out of their way to help. The nationwide

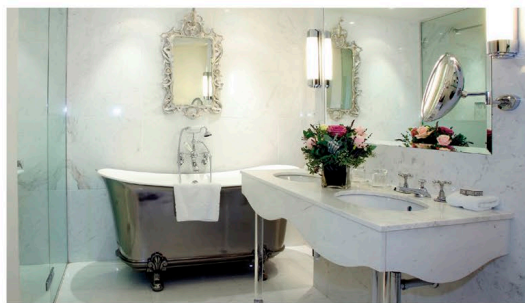
Tourism for All scheme provides details on accommodation standards and facilities for elderly visitors or those with mobility problems. For information on hotels that meet the three-tier "National Accessible Standard", contact **DisabledGo** or **Tourism For All**. A guide book for people with access needs, **Open Britain**, can be obtained from **Disability Rights UK**.

Travelling with Children

London hotels are very welcoming to children and many provide cots, high-chairs, babysitting services (always ensure sitters have had a DBS – Disclosure and Barring Service – check) and special meal arrangements. Ask whether the hotel offers special deals for children – some have special rates, or allow children to stay free of charge in their parents' room. Self-catering flats and private homes are also great options for families as these are more affordable and have far more space than a hotel room.



The Ritz (see p288) on Piccadilly, one of London's most exclusive hotels



Opulent bathroom at The Goring (see p290)

Self-Catering Flats

Many agencies offer self-catering accommodation in flats, usually for stays of a week or more. Prices, depending on size and location, start at about £300 per week. Some luxury apartment complexes are fully serviced, so you don't need to cook, shop or clean. **Bridge Street Global Hospitality** has over 550 London apartments in smart locations. It caters mainly for corporate and professional travellers, but its properties can be rented for short-term lets whenever they are available.

The **Landmark Trust** rents accommodation in historic or unusual buildings. These include a house in Hampton Court (see pp260–63) and two in a pretty 18th-century terrace in the City: one of these was the home of the late Poet Laureate, Sir John Betjeman. A booklet of Landmark Trust properties is available for a charge via their website.

Staying in Private Homes

A number of agencies organize stays in private homes; several are registered with Visit London. Prices depend on location, starting at around £25 per person per night. Sometimes you will enjoy family hospitality, but this isn't guaranteed, so enquire when you book. Many private homes are situated on the outskirts of the city, so consider travel costs when planning your trip; depending on the length of your stay, these are still often the more affordable option.

Airbnb offers accommodation for one night's stay or longer in private homes in London.

Deposits may be requested and cancellation fees imposed.

TripAdvisor and **Roomorama** also offer similar holiday rentals.

The Bed & Breakfast and Homestay Association (BBHA) is an umbrella organization for several reputable agencies whose properties are inspected regularly. **Uptown Reservations** arranges B&B stays in interesting, London homes that have been chosen for their welcome, security and comfort. Prices start at £125 per night for a double room. It works in tandem with **Wolsey Lodges**, a nationwide consortium of distinctive private homes, often of historic or architectural interest, offering individual hospitality.

Chain Hotels

Though they can lack character, chain hotels offer some of the best-value accommodation in town. Some also offer particular facilities; **Novotel**, for example, caters for both business guests and families. Other good-value chains include **Express by Holiday Inn** and **easyHotel**.

Travelodge and **Ibis** also have affordable rooms in key locations in the capital. For basic yet contemporary rooms, **Tune** has several hotels. **Premier Inn** offers competitive "saver rates" when booking through their website.

Budget Accommodation

Despite the high cost of many London hotels, budget accommodation does exist.

While private accommodation and chain hotels offer cheap rates with good amenities, hostels are another inexpensive option, particularly for those travelling alone. Dormitory accommodation and youth hostels can be booked through Visit London's hotel reservation centre at Victoria Station for a small fee plus a refundable deposit. Some private hostels near Earl's Court charge little more than £10 a night for a dormitory bed with breakfast. The **London Hostels Association** has a selection of reasonably priced accommodation throughout central London. The **Youth Hostels Association (YHA)** runs six hostels in London. There is no age limit, though non-members pay a joining fee. Of the seven, two are located in the heart of London. The Oxford Street hostel is actually in Noel Street, Soho, while the London St Paul's hostel is located near St Paul's Cathedral (see pp152–5). One of the most popular hostels is Holland House, a Jacobean mansion in Holland Park. The easiest way to book a bed online is through the **Hostelling International (HI)** website,



Imaginative dining suite at W (see p288)

which offers a range of global hostels to stay at.

Student rooms are available at Easter and from July to September. Some of these are in central locations such as South Kensington. **London University Rooms** arranges stays in halls, or, if you need a room in a hurry, **Imperial College** may be able to find you one.

Recommended Hotels

The hotels on pages 288–91 include a wide variety to suit all tastes and budgets. Luxury hotels encompass the finest establishments and offer the very best in service and amenities. Boutique hotels are generally smaller with uniquely decorated rooms. Character hotels are full of charm and usually family-run, while B&Bs offer a personable experience and hearty breakfast. Budget stays vary from guest-



At the top end of the market, the Mandarin Oriental Hyde Park (see p288)

houses and apartments to pubs with rooms.

Our hotels are divided into six key areas covering a broader span of the capital than the sightseeing sections of this guide: **Westminster and the West End** offers a great variety, ranging from the most expensive in Mayfair and St. James's to

less-expensive options around Soho, Trafalgar Square and Covent Garden. **Kensington and Chelsea** covers South Kensington and Knightsbridge, where there are slightly smaller hotels set in attractive town houses. **Bloomsbury and Regent's Park** has a broad range of options that are in good central locations such as on Holborn, Bloomsbury and Regent's Park. **The City and the East End** encompasses Smithfield and Spitalfields where there chain hotels at reasonable prices. **Southwark and the South Bank** is up-and-coming and features riverside hotels. Further Afield options offer particularly good value for money, facilities and service.

Where a hotel has an exceptional feature, such as great-value rates or spectacular views, it has been highlighted as a DK Choice.

DIRECTORY

Reservations and Information

British Hotel Reservation Centre

Victoria railway station, East Concourse SW1V 1JU.
Tel 020 7828 1027.
www.weknowlondon.com

Visit London

www.visitlondon.com

Disabled Travellers

DisabledGo

Tel 0845 270 4627.
www.disabledgo.com

Disability Rights UK

Ground Floor CAN Mezzanine 49–51 East Rd N1 6AH. Tel 020 7250 8181.
www.disabilityrightsuk.org

Tourism For All

7A Pixel Mill, 4 Appleby Rd, Kendal, Cumbria LA9 6ES. Tel 0845 124 9971; +44 1539 726 111 (overseas).
www.tourismforall.org.uk

Self-Catering

Bridge Street Global Hospitality

Tel 020 7792 2222.
www.bridgestreet.com

Landmark Trust

Shottesbrooke, Maidenhead, Berks SL6 3SW.
Tel 01628 825925.
www.landmarktrust.org.uk

Staying in Private Homes

Airbnb

www.airbnb.com

At Home in London

Tel 01474 708701.
www.athomeinlondon.co.uk

Bed & Breakfast & Homestay Association

8 Kelso Place W8 5OP.
Tel 020 7937 2001.
www.bbha.org.uk

Uptown Reservations

8 Kelso Place W8 5QD.
Tel 01474 708701.
www.uptownres.co.uk

Roomorama

www.roomorama.co.uk

TripAdvisor Rentals

www.tripadvisor.co.uk/rentals

Wolsey Lodges

9 Market Place, Hadleigh, Ipswich, Suffolk IP7 5DL.
Tel 01473 822058.
www.wolseylodges.com

Chain Hotels

Express by Holiday Inn

Tel 0871 4234876.
www.hiexpress.com

easyHotel

www.easyhotel.com

Ibis

www.ibis.com

Novotel

www.novotel.com

Premier Inn

Tel 0871 527 9222.
www.premierinn.com/london

Travelodge

Tel 0871 984 8484.
www.travelodge.co.uk/uk/London/hotels-in-london

Tune

www.tunehotels.com

Budget Accommodation

Hostelling International

2nd Floor Gate House, Fretherne Rd, Welwyn Garden City, Herts AL8 6RD.
Tel 01707 324170.
www.hihostels.com

London Hostels Association

53 Eccleston Sq SW1V 1PG. Tel 020 3642 4535.

www.lhalondon.com

Youth Hostels Association

Trevelyan House, Dimple Rd, Matlock, Derbyshire DE4 3YH.
Tel 01629 592700.
www.yha.org.uk

University Rooms

Imperial College Summer Accommodation Centre

Sherfield Building, Level 3 SW7 2AZ.
Tel 020 7594 9507.

www.imperial.ac.uk/visit/summer-accommodation

King's Venues

Tel 020 7848 1700.
www.kingsvenues.com
London University Rooms
www.universityrooms.com/en/city/London/home

Where to Stay

Luxury

Westminster and the West End

Leicester House ££

1 Leicester Street WC2H 7BL
Tel 020 3696 6460 Map 13 A2
w leicesterhouse.com
Dine at the sumptuous restaurant and stay in one of the calm, white, minimalist rooms.

The Athenaeum £££

116 Piccadilly W1J 7BJ
Tel 020 7493 3464 Map 12 E4
w athenaemumhotel.com
An established hotel, but with up-to-date, airy bedrooms and family-friendly apartments.

Claridge's £££

49 Brook Street W1K 4HR
Tel 020 7629 8860 Map 12 E2
w claridges.co.uk
One of London's greats; seamless service and understated luxury in a dazzling Art Deco building. Perfect for a special occasion.

Covent Garden £££

10 Monmouth Street WC2H 9HB
Tel 020 7620 1000 Map 13 B2
w firmdalehotels.com/london/covent-garden-hotel
A vibrant, sexy and designer-dressed hotel from the Firmdale stable. Combines old-world style with metropolitan chic.

Flemings Hotel and Apartments £££

7-12 Half Moon Street W1J 7BH
Tel 020 7499 0000 Map 12 E4
w flemings-mayfair.co.uk
This tranquil oasis is stylish but not too precious. Choose between charming rooms and apartments.

Four Seasons Hotel London at Park Lane £££

Hamilton Place W1J 7DR
Tel 020 7499 0888 Map 12 E4
w fourseasons.com/london
Sumptuously glossy and in a fantastic location, this hotel boasts immaculate service. It also has a stunning glass-walled rooftop spa.

The Goring £££

15 Beaton Place SW1W 0JW
Tel 020 7396 9000 Map 20 E1
w thegoring.com
There are liveried doormen and a lovely private garden at this great English institution. It's where the Duchess of Cambridge – then Kate Middleton – stayed the night before her wedding.

The Ritz £££

150 Piccadilly W1J 9BR
Tel 020 7493 8181 Map 12 F3
w theritzlondon.com
Perfectly preserved in its original Louis XVI style; glamour and glitz rolled into one. Don't miss the famous afternoon tea.

W London – Leicester Square £££

10 Wardour Street W1D 6QF
Tel 020 7758 1000 Map 13 A2
w wlondon.co.uk
All glass outside, sleek and bright inside, this luxury global brand hotel is the ultimate in cool.

Bloomsbury and Regent's Park

Charlotte Street £££

15-17 Charlotte Street W1T 1RJ
Tel 020 7806 2000 Map 13 A1
w firmdalehotels.com/london/charlotte-street-hotel
The groovy favourite of media folk, with lively public areas and a stylish private cinema.

The Langham £££

1c Portland Place W1B 1JA
Tel 020 7636 1000 Map 12 E1
w langhamhotels.com
A grande dame hotel with an Eastern look. Rooms have a relaxing private-home feel.

The City and the East End

DK Choice

Boundary Rooms £

2-4 Boundary Street E2 7DD
(entrance in Redchurch Street)
Tel 020 7729 1051 Map 8 D4
w boundary.london
A converted Victorian warehouse in trendy Shoreditch is the setting for Terence Conran's hotel. It exudes style, from the retro cellar restaurant to each perfectly designed bedroom. All rooms are bespoke and decorated with designer objects. Don't miss the views from the rooftop brasserie, which hums on summer weekends.

Shoreditch Rooms ££

Ebor Street E1 6AW
Tel 020 7739 5040 Map 8 D4
w shoreditchhouse.com
An imaginatively renovated warehouse, home to 26 fresh-looking bedrooms decorated in a New England vintage style.

Price Guide

Prices are based on one night's stay in high season for a standard double room, inclusive of service charges and taxes.

£	under £120
££	£120-£250
£££	over £250

Kensington and Chelsea

Royal Garden £££

2-24 Kensington High Street W8 4PT
Tel 020 7937 8000 Map 10 D5
w royalgardenhotel.co.uk
A 1960s hotel favoured by celebrities and well-suited to families. Go for a room with an unrivalled park view. Service is courteous and very efficient.

Belgraves £££

20 Chesham Place SW1X 8HQ
Tel 020 7858 0100 Map 20 D1
w thompsonhotels.com/hotels/london/belgraves-london
New York "boho" in Belgravia, with bold, eclectic design. There's a terrace with a retractable roof, a buzzy lobby and superb restaurant.

The Capital £££

22-24 Basil Street SW3 1AT
Tel 020 7589 5171 Map 11 C5
w capitalhotel.co.uk
All the luxury and service of a grand hotel, but much more. The bedrooms are a good size and traditionally elegant.

The Halkin by COMO £££

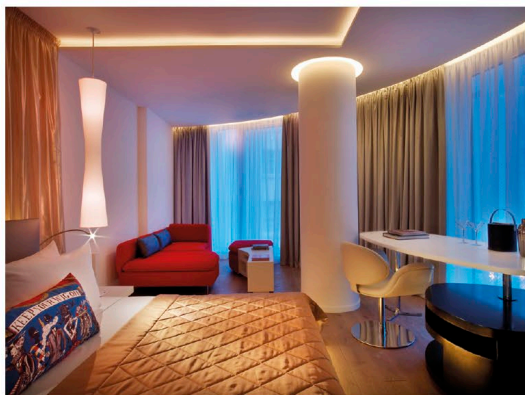
5 Halkin Street SW1X 7DJ
Tel 020 7333 1000 Map 12 D5
w comohotels.com/thehalkin
Welcoming service, fresh flowers, soft lighting and luxurious beds – the perfect place to chill out.

The Levin £££

28 Basil Street SW3 1AS
Tel 020 7589 6286 Map 11 C5
w thelevinhotel.co.uk
A little gem; from the pistachio-coloured reception to the gorgeous, cosy bedrooms.



Individually designed room at Charlotte Street hotel



The studio suite at the W London — Leicester Square (see p288)

DK Choice

Mandarin Oriental Hyde Park

£££

66 Knightsbridge SW1X 7LA
Tel 020 7235 2000 Map 11 C5
w mandarinoriental.com/london
Mandarin Oriental is a byword for luxury and impeccable Eastern-style service, and this vast Edwardian red-brick pile is no exception. Blending old and new, it has traditional bedrooms with mahogany furniture and marble fireplaces.

Boutique

Westminster and the West End

The Arch

££

50 Great Cumberland Place W1H 7FD
Tel 020 7724 4700 Map 11 C2
w thearchlondon.com
Converted from a terrace of town houses. Bedrooms are stylishly decorated with warm-coloured fabrics and handprinted wallpaper.

Bloomsbury and Regent's Park

Megaro, King's Cross

£££

Belgrove Street WC1H 8AB
Tel 020 7467 2777 Map 5 C3
w hotelmegaro.co.uk
A buzzing urban hang-out with striking contemporary rooms. Near King's Cross and St Pancras.

Montagu Place

£££

2-3 Montagu Place W1H 2ER
Tel 020 7467 2777 Map 11 C1
w montagu-place.co.uk
Go for a "Comfy", "Swanky" or "Fancy" room. An intimate hotel that stands out from the crowd.

No. Ten Manchester Street

£££

10 Manchester Street W1U 4DG
Tel 020 7317 5900 Map 12 D1
w tenmanchesterstreethotel.com
A handsome Edwardian town house with a gentleman's club feel. All-weather cigar terrace and comfy bar.

The City and the East End

The Hoxton

£££

81 Great Eastern Street EC2A 3HU
Tel 020 7550 1000 Map 7 C4
w thehoxton.com
Home to the buzzy Hoxton Grill restaurant, bar and lounge, this is a hip place to stay with ultra-cool, sleek and comfy rooms.

King's Wardrobe by Bridge Street

£££

6 Wardrobe Place EC4V 5AF
Tel 020 7792 2222 Map 14 F2
w serviced-apartments.bridgestreet.com/london-kings-wardrobe
Flagship building with apartments, ranging from studios to three bedrooms, all well equipped.

Threadneedles

£££

5 Threadneedle Street EC2R 8AY
Tel 020 7657 8080 Map 15 B2
w hotelthreadneedles.co.uk
A converted bank, this boutique-style hotel has immaculate service and luxurious rooms. A spectacular glass dome crowns the reception area.

The Zetter Townhouse

£££

49-50 St John's Square EC1V 4JJ
Tel 020 7324 4444 Map 6 E2
w thezettertownhouse.com
Get your toothpaste and Champagne from the same vending machine at this hip hotel with playful touches. Quirky and very welcoming.

Southwark and the South Bank

The Bermondsey Square

£££

Bermondsey Square, Tower Bridge Road SE1 3UN
Tel 020 7378 2450 Map 16 D4
w bermondseysquarehotel.co.uk
Treat yourself to a loft suite and hot tub with a view at this boldly furnished hotel.

DK Choice

London Bridge

£££

8-18 London Bridge Street SE1 9SG
Tel 020 7855 2200 Map 15 B4
w londonbridgehotel.com
Through the handsome 19th-century entrance, a modern lobby sets the scene for this hip yet intimate four-star hotel. The bedrooms are stylishly decorated, each with a black-and-white bathroom. There's also a well-equipped gym, restaurant, comfy lounge-bar and great weekend rates.

Kensington and Chelsea

The Amersand

£££

10 Harrington Road SW7 3ER
Tel 020 7589 5895 Map 19 A2
w amersandhotel.com
The decor is inspired by nearby museums, with rooms themed around music, science and nature.

My Chelsea

£££

35 Ixworth Place SW3 3QX
Tel 020 7225 7500 Map 19 B2
w myhotels.com/chelsea/
The emphasis here is on well-being with pastel shades, a sense of calm, raw food restaurant and superfood cocktail bar.

Grand Plaza Serviced Apartments

£££

42 Prince's Square W2 4AD
Tel 020 7985 8000 Map 10 D2
w grand-plaza.co.uk
Snug studios for couples; airy apartments for groups. Access to the square's gardens is a big plus.

Space Apart Hotel

£££

36-37 Kensington Gardens Square W2 4BQ
Tel 020 7908 1340 Map 10 D2
w aparthotel-london.co.uk
Practical apartments with funky details; a good choice for families.

Sydney House Chelsea

£££

9-11 Sydney Street SW3 6PU
Tel 020 7376 7711 Map 19 A3
w sydneyhousechelsea.co.uk
A chic bolthole; pale pistachio walls, blonde wood floors and Frette linen sheets.

Further Afield

Avov £
82 Dalston Lane E8 3AH
Tel 020 3490 5061
w avohotel.com
DVDs for rent, memory-foam beds and a host of thoughtful extras are some of the pluses at this trendy crash pad.

High Road House ££
162–170 Chiswick High Road W4 1PR
Tel 020 8742 1717
w highroadhouse.co.uk
Enjoy breakfast in the brasserie, after a night in one of the chic, Scandinavian-inspired rooms of this Georgian town house.

Rafayel on the Left Bank ££
34 Lombard Road SW11 3RF
Tel 020 7801 3600
w hotelrafayel.com
Large relaxing rooms (many with riverside views), a spa and conscientious staff single out this eco-friendly Battersea hotel.

Town Hall Hotel and Apartments ££
8 Patriot Square E2 9NF
Tel 020 7871 0460
w townhallhotel.com
Edwardian architecture, Art Deco interiors and hip furnishings are a winning combination at this attractive hotel in the heart of the East End. The individually designed rooms are spacious and include vintage pieces.

Character

Westminster and the West End

Dean Street Townhouse ££
69–71 Dean Street W1D 3SE
Tel 020 7434 1775 Map 13 A1
w deanstreettownhouse.com
A dynamic hotel with its Georgian heritage intact. Lively restaurant and charming bedrooms.

The Fox Club ££
46 Clarges Street W1J 7ER
Tel 020 7435 3656 Map 12 E3
w foxclublondon.com
Decorated with eye-catching fabrics, this charming hotel is open to non-club members.

Hazlitt's ££
6 Frith Street W1D 3JA
Tel 020 7434 1771 Map 13 A2
w hazlittshotel.com
Furnished with antiques, busts and prints, this is a distinctive hotel with bags of charm.



The polished, elegant exterior and lobby of the Stafford London

The Orange ££
37 Piccadilly Road SW1W 8NE
Tel 020 7881 9844 Map 20 D2
w theorange.co.uk
The Orange calls itself a "Public House and Hotel", but really it's a rustic restaurant with four beautifully designed rooms.

Hotel 41 £££
41 Buckingham Palace Road SW1W 0PS
Tel 020 7300 0041 Map 20 E2
w 41hotel.com
A stunning hotel with a clubby atmosphere, black-and-white bedrooms and dark wood.

The Stafford London £££
16–18 St James's Place SW1A 1NJ
Tel 020 7493 0111 Map 12 F4
w thestaffordlondon.com
A class act. Traditional English country house furnishings and an American Bar.

Bloomsbury and Regent's Park

Durrants ££
26–32 George Street W1H 5BJ
Tel 020 7935 8131 Map 12 D1
w durrantshotel.co.uk
An English classic, from the venerable panelled entrance to the tiny snug bar. The uniformed staff and Edwardian lobby set the scene for the rest of the hotel.

Montague on the Gardens ££
15 Montague Street WC1B 5BJ
Tel 020 7637 1001 Map 5 B5
w montaguehotel.com
Modern, chic and charming, with attentive, helpful staff, this genteel town house offers a peaceful retreat in the city. Close to the British Museum.

Rough Luxe ££
1 Birkenhead Street WC1H 8BA
Tel 020 7837 5338 Map 5 C3
w roughluxehotel.co.uk
This quirky hotel boasts original art and a touch of luxury.

The City and the East End

DK Choice

The Rookery ££
12 Peter's Lane, Cowcross Street EC1M 6DS
Tel 020 7336 0931 Map 6 F5
w rookeryhotel.com
A romantic venue, The Rookery consists of three restored 18th-century houses, crammed with curiosities. Its seductive bedrooms have antique beds and bathrooms with roll-top baths. Downstairs in the foyer you'll find an open fire.

Kensington and Chelsea

The Gore ££
190 Queen's Gate SW7 5EX
Tel 020 7584 6601 Map 10 F5
w gorehotel.com
A hotel that explodes with character; pictures jostle for wall space; bedrooms are all unique.

Twenty Nevern Square ££
20 Nevern Square SW5 9PD
Tel 020 7565 9555 Map 17 C2
w 20nevernsquare.com
Some deliciously sumptuous rooms at this calm refuge with colonial and Asian decor.

Vancouver Studios ££
30 Prince's Square W2 4NJ
Tel 020 7243 1270 Map 10 D2
w vancouverstudios.co.uk
Elegant studios with vintage-style furnishings complemented by modern comforts in a stylish town house.

Further Afield

The Alma ££
499 Old York Road SW18 1TF
Tel 020 8870 2537
w almayandsworth.com
A Victorian tavern, now one of Wandsworth's new-breed pub-restaurants, with 23 rooms.

Bingham ££
61–63 Petersham Road, Richmond-Upon-Thames, Surrey TW10 6UT
Tel 020 8940 0902
w thebingham.co.uk
This Georgian town house overlooking the Thames has a great restaurant.

Fox and Grapes ££
9 Camp Road, Wimbledon Common
SW19 4UN
Tel 020 8619 1300
W foxandgrapeswimbledon.co.uk
This chic getaway offers small but comfy rooms above a gastropub.

The Rose and Crown ££
199 Stoke Newington Church Street
N16 9ES
Tel 020 7923 3337
W roseandcrown16.co.uk
Stay in a king-sized room above this classic oak-panelled pub.

Bed & Breakfast

Westminster and the West End

Lime Tree ££
135–137 Ebury Street SW1W 9QU
Tel 020 7730 8191 Map 20 E2
W limetreehotel.co.uk
A family-run venture; rooms boast original 18th-century features.

Luna Simone ££
47–49 Belgrave Road SW1V 2BB
Tel 020 7834 5897 Map 20 F2
W lunasimonehotel.com
Family-run since the 1980s; home-cooked English breakfast.

The Sumner ££
54 Upper Berkeley Street W1H 7QR
Tel 020 7723 2244 Map 11 C1
W thesumner.com
A Georgian town house full of warmth and charm. Elegantly decorated throughout.

Bloomsbury and Regent's Park

22 York Street ££
22 York Street W1U 6PX
Tel 020 7224 2990 Map 3 B5
W 22yorkstreet.co.uk
This Georgian terraced house is filled with character. Rooms are cosy and individually decorated.

Arosfa ££
83 Gower Street WC1E 6HJ
Tel 020 7636 2115 Map 5 A5
W arosfalondon.com
Guests are made to feel like part of the family at this simple B&B.

Kensington and Chelsea
Amsterdam £
7 Trebovir Road, Earls Court SW5 9LS
Tel 020 7370 5084 Map 17 C3
W amsterdam-hotel.com
A prize-winning B&B with pastel rooms and apartments. The garden is perfect in summer.

Hyde Park Rooms £
137 Sussex Gardens W2 2RX
Tel 020 7723 0225 Map 11 A1
W hydeparkrooms.com
No-frills rooms (some not en-suite), all kept admirably spick and span. Generous breakfasts.

Rhodes £
195 Sussex Gardens W2 2RJ
Tel 020 7262 0537 Map 11 A1
W rhodeshotel.com
A warm welcome is assured at this eclectic hotel. The Super Deluxe rooms have spa baths.

Aster House ££
3 Sumner Place SW7 3EE
Tel 020 7581 5888 Map 19 A2
W asterhouse.com
A peaceful, eco-friendly sanctuary. Victorian architecture and traditional furnishings.

Budget

Bloomsbury and Regent's Park

No. 5 Doughty Street ££
5 Doughty Street WC1N 2PL
Tel 020 7373 9120 Map 6 D4
W blueprintlivingapartments.com/no-5-doughty-street
Modern, unfussy apartments; Blueprint Living's complex offers comfort at reasonable rates.

The City and the East End

Premier Inn London City (Tower Hill) £
24 Prescott Street E1 8BB
Tel 0871 527 8646 Map 16 E2
W premierinn.com/en/hotel/LONCIT/london-city-tower-hill
Plain but pleasant rooms with comfortable king-size beds. Bathrooms have power showers.

Kensington and Chelsea

DK Choice

London House Hotel £
81 Kensington Gardens Square W2 4DJ
Tel 020 7243 1810 Map 10 D2
W londonhousehotels.com
A smart and stylish hotel with contemporary decor throughout, this place is excellent value for money. Rooms range from a small single to the family suite. Great location close to Paddington station and Hyde Park.

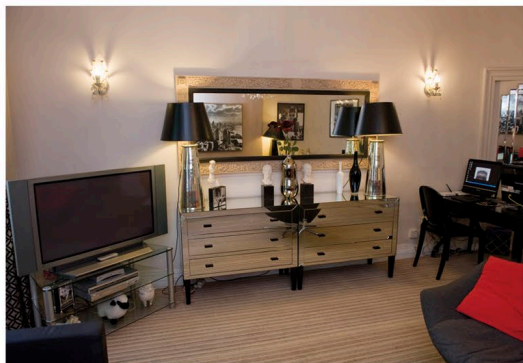
Southwark and the South Bank

Tune – Westminster £
118–120 Westminster Bridge Road SE1 7RW
Tel 020 7633 9317 Map 14 D5
W tunehotels.com
London outpost of a modest Asian chain. Smart, simple, spotless accommodation.

Premier Inn London County Hall ££
County Hall, Belvedere Road SE1 7PB
Tel 0871 527 8648 Map 13 C5
W premierinn.com/en/hotel/LONCOU/london-county-hall
Spacious, noise-insulated bedrooms, some with river views.

Further Afield

Georgian House £
35–39 St Georges Drive SW1V 4DG
Tel 020 7834 1438 Map G9
W georgianhousehotel.co.uk
The crowd-pullers here are the more expensive Harry Potter-themed Wizard Chambers but the Victoria Classic rooms are excellent value and the hearty breakfasts are top quality.



Interior of the Arosfa B&B

WHERE TO EAT AND DRINK

Multi-cultural London bursts at the seams with thousands of restaurants, cafés, food markets and gastropubs. Perennial favourites and Michelin-starred stalwarts rub shoulders with a burgeoning street food scene, and pop-ups showcase the latest foodie trends. The city thrives on an extraordinary culinary diversity. With a long tradition of Indian, Chinese, French and Italian restaurants,

and British classics lining gastropub menus, eating out in London can nowadays take you on a gastronomic journey around the world. Dine on dim sum, feast on Middle Eastern favourites, tuck into a multi-course Italian extravaganza: whatever your tastes, the city has somewhere on every corner to satiate your appetite and the listings on the following pages highlight some of the very best.



Diners at a Leon restaurant (see p309)

London Restaurants

Londoners have long had a tremendously cosmopolitan appetite and visitors will find international favourites presented in every imaginable way. For fine-dining fans, the city boasts an impressive array of restaurants overseen by world-class chefs, such as Angela Hartnett's Italian-inspired Murano (see p299) and the Michelin-starred Marcus Wareing at the Berkeley (see p301). Those who would prefer something a little more informal are well served by an assortment of restaurants that buzz with delighted patrons tucking into a broad-ranging menu of British and international classics.

With an international community, the city is home to plenty of restaurants dedicated to specific cuisines. Indian, French, Mexican, Korean: whatever your tastes, the huge range on offer means there is always something different to taste and enjoy. And such is the variety of London's food scene that those with specific requirements need not fear

missing out: vegetarians will find at least one option on most menus and should look out for one of the growing number of specialist veggie restaurants (some of which are listed on the following pages).

Other Places to Eat

As well as excellent restaurants, London also has a dynamic café scene, with light meals readily available throughout the day. Visitors on a budget looking for a simple, tasty meal should head to one of the good-quality chains that have branches all over the capital. They offer a variety of cuisines, such as burgers, pizza, pasta and tapas, and often have seating for large groups.

Gastropubs and wine bars are continually popular and both serve anything from standard British dishes to Thai curries and more imaginative international food, which is complemented by global wine lists. For a selection of mainly informal places to eat and drink, including pubs, see pages 308–15.

Tips on Eating Out

Most London restaurants serve lunch between noon and 2:30pm, with dinner from 6:30pm until 11pm, which usually means that last orders are taken at 11pm. Even after midnight you can usually find somewhere open to grab a snack. Some restaurants may close for either lunch or dinner at weekends, so it is always best to check opening times first. Many restaurants and some cafés and brasseries serve alcohol without restriction.

If you plan to eat out on a Sunday be aware that many pubs and restaurants (including some fine-dining establishments) serve only a traditional British Sunday lunch (typically a roasted meat with vegetables).

Most formal restaurants insist on a smart-casual dress code (no jeans, trainers or



A revolution in "pub grub" has made London's pubs an attractive dining option



Entrance to the Gallery Mess (see p300)
at the Saatchi Gallery

code (no jeans, trainers or shorts). Some insist on a jacket; a few on jacket and tie.

Booking is advisable, especially at gourmet restaurants and between Friday and Sunday. Smoking is banned in all London pubs and restaurants.

Price and Service

As London is one of the world's most expensive cities, restaurant prices can often seem exorbitant to visitors, with an average three-course meal and a few glasses of house wine at a medium-priced central London restaurant costing around £40–£60 per person. Many restaurants have set-price menus which are generally significantly less expensive than ordering à la carte. Similarly, various West End restaurants serve pre-theatre set menus (typically from around 5:30–6pm). Prices may be lower (around £20–£30 a head) at smaller, more modest restaurants, wine bars and pubs.

Before ordering your meal, check the small print on the menu. Prices may automatically include an optional service charge (customary 10–15 per cent). If this isn't included, you may be asked to "add gratuity" when paying with a card machine, though there is some argument that a cash tip is more likely to find its way into the staff's pockets.

Eating with Children

Many London restaurants, particularly chain restaurants and fast-food establishments, welcome children. A few venues, such as The Rainforest Café on Shaftesbury Avenue, create a unique dining experience especially for kids.

With the growing trend for a more informal style of dining, more restaurants, including those at the top end of the market, have become child-friendly, offering children's menus, smaller portions and high chairs. Some provide colouring books and even put on live entertainment to keep the little diners happy. See page 353 for suggested places that cater particularly for children.

Recommended Restaurants

The restaurants on pages 296–307 of this guide cover a comprehensive range of cuisines suited to those on different budgets. With such an eclectic mix of restaurants on offer, the listings showcase the best of their kind, from Spanish tapas bars to formal fine-dining establishments. Where a restaurant is in some way exceptional – perhaps for its exquisite food, good-value menu or family-friendly facilities – it has been highlighted as a DK Choice.

The restaurants have been divided into six areas of London, covering a broader span of the capital than the 14 areas within the Area by Area section: Grouped in the listings under **Westminster and the West End**, the broadest choice of restaurants can be found in Covent Garden and on the Strand, in Piccadilly, Mayfair and St James, and Soho and Trafalgar Square. The **Kensington and Chelsea** section, which encompasses Knightsbridge, also offers an extensive range of restaurants, as does the **Bloomsbury and Regent's Park** area, taking in Holborn and the Inns of Court. **Southwark and the South Bank** is always buzzing, with a large variety of riverside restaurants to choose from.

The City and the East End is home to a wide range of chic and contemporary eateries, particularly around Smithfield and Spitalfields. There is also a fair selection of highly commended restaurants to be found **Further Afield** in areas such as fashionable Camden. Within these areas, places are listed alphabetically in each of the three price categories.

Everywhere listed here offers sit-down meals. If you are looking for a light bite in a more informal setting, see pages 308–15 for dependable food chains, gastropubs, street food markets and cafés.



Bibendum, a popular choice for sophisticated French cuisine (see p301)

The Flavours of London

Reflecting the capital's multicultural population and cosmopolitan nature, the dishes on London's menus take inspiration from all parts of the globe and draw on a rich range of flavours. Middle Eastern mezze, aromatic Chinese dim sum, spicy Indian curries: all are as familiar on the city's dining tables as the ubiquitous meat and two veg. Despite the representation of global cuisines, "modern British cooking" best describes much of what's on offer in the city, with restaurants reviving the country's classic dishes using home-grown ingredients and cooking international favourites in a truly British style.



Chef and customer at Clerkenwell's St John restaurant

lamb, Devon cider, Suffolk oysters – as well as from the rest of the world. Visitors can snack as they browse, on anything from Cornish scallops to grilled Spanish chorizo.

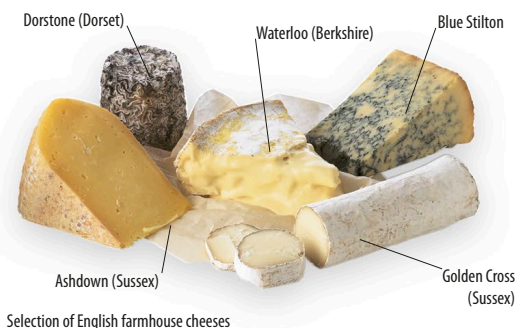
Modern British Food

London menus will often detail the provenance of ingredients with obvious

pride. Ancient or "rare" breeds of cattle are name-checked, such as Gloucester Old Spot pork. Once-overlooked, old-fashioned ingredients like rhubarb and black (blood) pudding are now being used in creative ways. Seasonal and organic produce is also taking centre stage. The growing breed of gastropubs were among the first to adopt

The Marketplace

Nowhere better exemplifies the city's love affair with good food than Borough Market (see p335). Its busy stalls offering both regional and continental food are a microcosm of what Londoners today like to eat. There is produce from all over Britain – English and Irish cheeses, Scottish beef, Welsh



Selection of English farmhouse cheeses

Traditional English Food

Though global cuisine is now a firm fixture on the London food scene, traditional English dishes are still readily available. Classics such as roast beef, fish and chips, and shepherd's pie have been given a makeover and can be found in many restaurants in the capital as well as in informal gastropubs. For an archetypal national dish, head out early for a "full English breakfast": an assortment of fried sausages, eggs, bacon, tomatoes, mushrooms and toast. Popular snacks include pasties and sausage rolls, which can be picked up from food stands and bakeries. For those with a sweet tooth, look out for old-fashioned puddings such as treacle tart, jam roly-poly (suet sponge and jam), spotted dick (suet sponge and currants) and fruit crumbles with custard. Teatime may be a thing of the past but many top hotels and boutique cafés offer "cream teas" with scones topped with clotted cream and strawberry jam, cakes and cucumber sandwiches.



Fish and Chips Battered cod or plaice and chips served with tartare sauce. A side order of mushy peas is popular.



Bountiful vegetable stall at London's Borough Market

these trends, offering good, imaginative, well-prepared and sensibly priced food, as well as fine wines and beers, in the relaxed surroundings of the traditional London pub.

London's historic seafood favourites – cockles in vinegar, whelks and jellied eels – are increasingly hard to find but, as capital of an island nation, the city offers many fine fish restaurants. Many places selling seafood, from restaurants to market stalls, are conscious of the environment and advocate sustainable fishing, so patrons should look out for seafood sourced from approved suppliers. As a consequence, it's very likely that you'll spot local catches such as bream, bass, sole and gurnard on the menu alongside cod and haddock. Salmon is often billed as wild and scallops as diver-caught.

International Flavours

Such is the diversity of the city's restaurants that there really is something for everyone in London. Britain has long had a love affair with both Asian and Indian food, and some of the best examples of each can be found across the capital. While chicken tikka masala has been voted the nation's favourite dish (invented here, the legend goes, to satisfy the national passion for

gravy by pairing tandoori dry-roasted meat with a mild, creamy sauce), regional Indian food is now to the fore, notably southern cuisine strong on coconut, fish and fruits. Spanish and Mexican-style tapas and Mediterranean and Middle Eastern-style mezze are all prominent, and no area is without its Italian ristorante. Street food stalls and markets provide a taste of the global flavours prevalent across the city and while there is a variety of foods everywhere, there are pockets of London dominated by a particular cuisine.

WHERE TO EAT

Asian Chinatown in Soho is, of course, home to an impressive collection of Chinese restaurants, but also offers excellent Japanese and Vietnamese food.

Indian Southall in Ealing is home to the largest Indian community in London.

Caribbean Traditional Caribbean dishes such as curried goat, plantain and jerk chicken, are cooked to perfection in Brixton, south London.

Spanish Tapas restaurants are increasingly popular in the West End, serving a taste of the Mediterranean in small dishes.

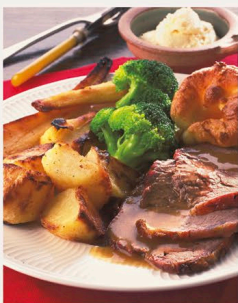
Italian Possibly one of London's most popular cuisines, an array of traditional Italian restaurants surrounds St Peter's Italian Church near Holborn.



Market stall-holders offering prepared food follow high hygiene standards



Shepherd's Pie Minced lamb slow-cooked with diced vegetables, topped off with creamy mashed potato.



Roast Beef Horseradish sauce is a traditional accompaniment, as are crisp Yorkshire puddings made of batter.



Eton Mess Named for the elite public school, a crushed mix of fresh strawberries, whipped cream and meringue.

Where to Eat and Drink

Westminster and the West End

Brasserie Zedel £ French Map 13 A2

20 Sherwood Street W1F 7ED
Tel 020 7734 4888
This authentic French-styled restaurant complete with a cocktail bar is a diner's delight. Excellent well-priced dishes and frequent live jazz.

Kulu Kulu Sushi £ Japanese Map 13 A2

76 Brewer Street W1F 9TU
Tel 020 7734 7316
Sit on a stool in the bar area and help yourself to tasty sushi and sashimi from a conveyor belt. Perfect for a quick bite.

Princi £ Italian Map 13 A2

135 Wardour Street W1F 0UT
Tel 020 7478 8888
A stylish Milan import. Pick up your handmade bread and wood-fired pizza at the counter and sit at the communal tables or opt for the informal dining room with waiter service. No bookings.

Regency Café £ British Map 21 A2

17-19 Regency Street SW1P 4BY
Tel 020 7821 6596
An authentic 1950s "caff", featured in the movie *Layer Cake*. Heavenly hash browns and eggs Benedict for breakfast or brunch.

DK Choice

Sagar £ Indian Vegetarian Map 13 C2

31 Catherine Street WC2B 5JS
Tel 020 7836 6377
Subtle flavours distinguish a broad range of dishes from South India at this simple, canteen-style restaurant. Curries are freshly made and the lunch *thali* (selection of small dishes) not only tastes good, it's also great value for money. Don't overlook the delicious crispy *dosas* (potato-filled pancakes). Efficient, friendly service.

Soho Joe £ Mediterranean Map 13 A1

22-5 Dean Street W1D 3RY
Tel 07534 134398
Thin-crust pizzas are the stars of the show at this great-value Italian. Pasta, burgers and toasted sandwiches also feature.

Thai Pot £ Thai Map 13 B2

1 Bedfordbury WC2N 4BP
Tel 020 7379 4580 **Closed Sun & bank hol Mon**
Thai staples packed full of fragrant flavour are offered at this small restaurant, while dashes of warm colour jazz up the sleek, contemporary decoration.

Tokyo Diner £ Japanese Map 13 B2

2 Newport Place WC2H 7JJ
Tel 020 7287 8777
Tuck into authentic food, including katsu curry, sushi and bento boxes, at this functional three-storey diner. Good value lunchtime set meals and specials are available. Strictly no tipping.

Wahaca £ Mexican Map 13 B3

66 Chandos Place WC2N 4HG
Tel 020 7240 1883
Colourful and cool, this is the original branch of the Wahaca chain serving a seasonal menu of tasty Mexican street food. No bookings.

Yalla Yalla £ Lebanese Map 13 A2

1 Green's Court W1F 0HA
Tel 020 7287 7663
Be transported to Beirut at this little gem, where the spicy street food packs a punch. Heartier meals are also on offer.

The 10 Cases ££ British Map 13 B1

16 Endell Street WC2H 9BD
Tel 020 7836 6801
Outstanding wines – ten reds, ten whites – plus three choices per course at this exciting ten-table restaurant. The menu is based on British cooking with European overtones.

Price Guide

For a three-course meal per person, including tax, service, and half a bottle of house wine.

£	under £30
££	£30–£60
£££	Over £60

Andrew Edmunds ££ European Map 13 A2

46 Lexington Street W1F 0LW
Tel 020 7437 5708
A tiny, candlelit retreat. Imaginative dishes, including well-balanced seafood and game, feature on a daily-changing menu.

Barrafina ££ Spanish tapas Map 13 A2

54 Frith Street W1D 4SL
Tel 020 7440 1456
Take pot luck at this hip joint – there are just 23 bar stools and no reservations. Fabulous, intensely flavoured tapas.

Belgo Centraal ££ Belgian Map 13 B2

50 Earlham Street WC2H 9LJ
Tel 020 7813 2233
A bustling branch of a quirky chain, and one of the largest restaurants in the city. Team the excellent lobster or *moules frites* with a Trappist beer.

Bellamy's ££ French Map 12 E3

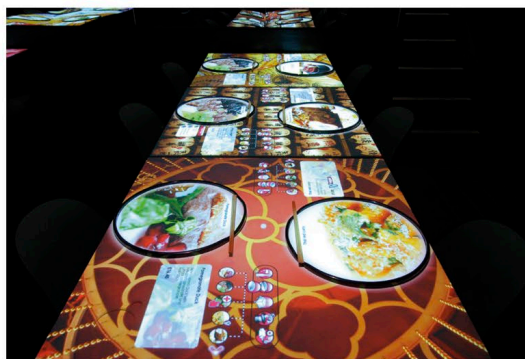
18 Bruton Place W1J 6LY
Tel 020 7491 2727 **Closed Sun**
Dine in the quietly traditional dining room or the clubby Oyster Bar. Exclusively French wines accompany a well-executed menu.

Bocca di Lupo ££ Italian Map 13 A2

12 Archer Street W1D 7BB
Tel 020 7734 2223
A small place (only 14 tables) with a big Italian heart. Chef



The traditional dining rooms of Clos Maggiore



The tables double up as touch-screen menus at Asian-inspired Inamo

Jacob Kennedy specializes in robust, little-known traditional regional recipes.

Cinnamon Club ££
Indian Map 21 B1
The Old Westminster Library, 30–32 Great Smith Street SW1P 3BU
Tel 020 7222 2555 **Closed Sun**
 Delicately spiced North Indian cuisine, using the freshest ingredients. Housed in a former library with an atmosphere of hushed sophistication.

Chisou ££
Japanese Map 12 F2
4 Princes Street W1B 2LE
Tel 020 7629 3931
 Unfussy decor is perfectly teamed with delectable sushi at this bona fide Japanese bistro. There's also a mind-blowing selection of saké.

DK Choice

Clos Maggiore ££
European Map 13 B2
33 King Street WC2E 8JD
Tel 020 7379 9696
 For a magical experience, try for a table in the courtyard conservatory at Clos Maggiore, with its blossom-laden branches. On balmy evenings, the roof is opened to the stars, while a fire is lit when it's chilly – sheer romance. French regional food inspires the modern European cooking. Fixed-price pre- and post-theatre menus are quite a bargain.

Dehesa ££
Tapas Map 12 F2
25 Ganton Street W1F 9BP
Tel 020 7494 4170
 A buzzy vibe paired with stand-out tapas. Make sure you taste its famous charcuterie and signature dish – stuffed courgette flower.

Al Duca ££
Italian Map 13 A3
4–5 Duke of York Street SW1Y 6LA
Tel 020 7839 3090 **Closed Sun**
 A reasonably priced and popular local. Using the freshest of ingredients, classic Italian dishes are given a modern twist.

Gopal's of Soho ££
Indian Map 13 A2
12 Bateman Street W1 5TD
Tel 020 7434 1621
 Come to this family-run curry house for the intense flavours of the expertly spiced food.

Haozhan ££
Chinese Map 13 A2
8 Gerrard Street W1D 5PJ
Tel 020 7434 3838
 Try delicate black cod dumplings or wasabi prawns – a world away from the standard Chinese staples.

Hard Rock Café ££
American Map 12 E4
150 Old Park Lane W1K 1QZ
Tel 020 7514 1700
 Try American classics at this legend with its fascinating collection of rock memorabilia. Still rocking after more than 40 years.

Inamo ££
Asian fusion Map 13 A2
134–6 Wardour Street W1F 8ZP
Tel 020 7851 7051
 An Oriental eatery with a difference. Order your meal on a touch-screen pad and play games while you wait.

Mildred's ££
Vegetarian Map 13 A2
45 Lexington Street W1F 9AN
Tel 020 7494 1634 **Closed Sun**
 Drawing on a range of cuisines, the inspired vegetarian dishes at Mildred's are fit to convert the most confirmed carnivore. Try the ale and porcini mushroom pie. No bookings.

Nopi ££
Middle Eastern Map 12 F2
21–2 Warwick Street W1B 5NE
Tel 020 7494 9584
 Cookery writer Yotam Ottolenghi's grown-up restaurant boasts a blend of aromatic flavours, bold colours and exciting textures in dishes designed for sharing. The menu changes according to the season.

Noura ££
Lebanese Map 20 E1
16 Hobart Place SW1W 0HH
Tel 020 7235 9444
 Exceptional mezzes and kebabs at the flagship of an award-winning chain. Classy decor and a tempting menu with plenty to choose from.

Patara ££
Thai Map 13 A2
115 Greek Street W1D 4DP
Tel 020 7437 1071
 An enticing all-rounder, spread over two dimly lit, romantic floors. Specialities include several prawn dishes, each an explosion of flavour.

El Pirata ££
Tapas Map 12 E4
5–6 Down Street W1J 7AQ
Tel 020 7491 3810 **Closed Sun**
 There's a deft hand in the kitchen at this lively, laid-back restaurant. All the classic Spanish and Portuguese favourites are on offer.

DK Choice

The Portrait ££
British Map 13 B3
National Portrait Gallery, 2 St Martin's Place WC2H 0HE
Tel 020 7312 2490
 Spot London's famous monuments from a window seat at this top-floor restaurant. The excellent food served here is contemporary British: the seabass with marsh samphire stands out. The main dining area is smart and modern, in complete contrast to the historical surroundings. Before or after your meal, be sure to take a turn around the splendid National Portrait Gallery.

Rasa ££
Indian Map 12 E2
6 Dering Street W1S 1AD
Tel 020 7629 1346 **Closed Sun**
 Unusual and exquisitely fragrant specialities from Kerala, each served on a huge fresh banana leaf. The choice of vegetarian and fish dishes is exceptional.



The elegant afternoon tea at The Wolseley

Refuel ££
British Map 13 A2

The Soho Hotel, 4 Richmond Mews W1D 3DH

Tel 020 7559 3007

Rub shoulders with the glitterati at this stylish media-land hang-out. A diverse menu of modern European cuisine. Great service.

Suda Thai ££
Thai Map 13 B2

St Martin's Courtyard, 23 Slingsby Place WC2E 9AB

Tel 020 7240 8010

Award-winning Thai restaurant with plenty of choice. Opt for a selection of Small Bites and Small Bowls to share.

Terroirs ££
Mediterranean Map 13 B3

5 William IV Street WC2N 4DW

Tel 020 7036 0660 **Closed Sun**

An impressive selection of wines, teamed with wholesome organic food (pork, snails, lentils, mushrooms and charcuterie). Reminiscent of a Parisian wine bar.

Vasco and Piero's Pavilion ££
Italian Map 13 A2

15 Poland Street W1F 8QE

Tel 020 7437 8774 **Closed Sun**

Home-made pasta is used in their own excellent recipes, often with truffles when in season. Umbrian specialities, such as pork and lentils, are favourites.

Wild Food Café ££
Vegetarian Map 13 B1

14 Neals Yard WC2H 9DP

Tel 020 7419 2014

Watch your food prepared right in front of you in this quirky café. They proudly use locally sourced produce, so be sure to ask for the week's specials. There's always a choice of vegan dishes.

The Wolseley ££
European Map 12 F3

160 Piccadilly W1J 9EB

Tel 020 7499 6996

The glorious 1920s Wolseley Motors car showroom makes a stunning home for this glamorous café/restaurant. The afternoon tea is legendary.

Asia de Cuba £££
Fusion Map 13 B2

45 St Martin's Lane WC2N 4HX

Tel 020 7300 5588

Combines Latin and Asian cuisine, served sharing-style in a high-energy, sophisticated and yet relaxed environment.

Atelier de Joël Robuchon £££
French Map 13 B2

13–15 West Street WC2H 9NE

Tel 020 7010 8600

Try for a front-row seat at the Japanese-inspired counter in this contemporary Michelin-starred temple to modern French cuisine.

Bentley's Oyster Bar and Grill £££
Seafood Map 12 F3

11 Swallow Street W1B 4DG

Tel 020 7734 4756 **Closed Sun**

A civilized island of calm, in business since 1916. Chef Richard Corrigan's inventive creations keep it firmly on the map. There are plenty of meat dishes if you're not in the mood for seafood.

Le Caprice £££
International Map 12 F3

Arlington House, Arlington Street

SW1A 1RJ

Tel 020 7629 2239

Classy, yet vibrant rendezvous for media types, where everyone is made to feel like a star by the delightful staff. Bistro food.

Cecconi's £££
Italian Map 12 F3

5A Burlington Gardens W1S 3EP

Tel 020 7434 1500

Expect handmade pasta and the freshest ingredients. Gets busy at peak times, so book in advance.

Céleste £££
European Map 12 D5

The Lanesborough Hotel, Hyde Park Corner SW1X 7TA

Tel 020 7259 5599

Push the boat out and order the impressive five-course tasting menu. The Venetian-style dining room is sumptuous, and is lit by a glass-domed roof during the day and elegant chandeliers at night.

DK Choice
CUT at 45 Park Lane £££
Steakhouse Map 12 D4

45 Park Lane W1K 1PN

Tel 020 7493 4554

US celebrity chef Wolfgang Puck's first European venture is a paradise for carnivores. Choose a raw cut from a platter brought to your table before it is whisked away and expertly cooked. Grand surroundings and well-informed waiters.

Le Gavroche £££
French Map 12 D2

43 Upper Brook Street W1K 7QR

Tel 020 7408 0881 **Closed Sun**

Come to Michel Roux Jr's flagship restaurant for exceptional haute cuisine and supremely professional service. The set lunch is well priced.

Hakkasan Mayfair £££
Chinese Map 12 E3

17 Bruton Street W1J 6QB

Tel 020 7907 1888

Glitzy, adeptly lit showcase for exquisite Cantonese cuisine, including some of the finest dim sum you're likely to taste.

DK Choice
J Sheekey £££
Fish and seafood Map 13 B2

28–32 St Martin's Court WC2N 4AL

Tel 020 7240 2565

London's finest fish restaurant dates back to the 1890s. The wonderfully varied menu consists of responsibly sourced fish, oysters and shellfish. Most fun is to sit on a high stool at the horseshoe-shaped bar for the signature oysters and Champagne. Or dine in the elegant banquet seating area and admire the open kitchen.

Murano £££
European Map 12 E3
 20 Queen Street W1J 5PP
Tel 020 7495 1127 **Closed** Sun
 The clue is in the name: celebrated chef Angela Hartnett's sublime cooking is Venetian influenced. The menu is split into five sections at this Michelin-starred restaurant and you are invited to order from each section in any order you choose.

Nobu £££
Japanese Map 12 E4
 Metropolitan Hotel W1,
 19 Old Park Lane W1K 1LB
Tel 020 7447 4747
 Sample beautifully prepared sashimi, tempura and many more contemporary, ground-breaking dishes at this Japanese restaurant. The seafood and fish are of the highest quality.

The Northall £££
British Map 13 B3
 Corinthia Hotel, 10 Northumberland Avenue WC2N 5AE
Tel 020 7321 3100
 Accomplished cooking by head chef Garry Hollihead, served in a vast dining room. Try the set Theatre Menu before or after a show at the nearby Playhouse.

La Petite Maison £££
French Map 12 E2
 53–54 Brook's Mews W1K 4EG
Tel 020 7495 4774
 Come to this exhilarating spot in a group; the small Mediterranean dishes and southern French flavours combine seasonal ingredients and are perfect for sharing.

Pollen Street Social £££
British Map 12 F2
 10 Pollen Street W1S 1NQ
Tel 020 7290 7600 **Closed** Sun
 Opened by Gordon Ramsay protégé Jason Atherton in 2011, this Michelin-starred restaurant focuses on British-sourced ingredients and seasonal produce. The food is ravishing – and there are menus for vegetarians and vegans. The set-menu is reasonably priced.

The Ritz Restaurant £££
British Map 12 F3
 150 Piccadilly W1J 9BR
Tel 020 7300 2370
 The world-renowned 5-star Piccadilly hotel boasts a glamorous dining room decorated with ceiling frescoes, chandeliers, marble columns and floor-to-ceiling windows. The impressive cuisine is classic and based on British ingredients.

Rules £££
British Map 13 C2
 35 Maiden Lane WC2E 7LB
Tel 020 7836 5314
 Robust British food in an opulent setting – rib of beef, oysters and game from its own country estate – at the capital's oldest restaurant, established in 1798.

Scott's £££
Fish and seafood Map 12 D3
 20 Mount Street W1 2HE
Tel 020 7495 7309
 Join the league of celebrities who have dined here, including Marilyn Monroe. Its sensational seafood makes it as popular as ever. The roasted shellfish platters are outstanding.

The Square £££
French Map 12 E3
 6–10 Bruton Street W1J 6PU
Tel 020 7495 7100
 A luxurious haunt of wine-lovers and foodies alike. All down to its encyclopedic wine list and complex, wonderful food.

Veeraswamy £££
Indian Map 12 F3
 Victory House, 99 Regent Street W1B 4RS
Tel 020 7734 1401
 There's a mix of contemporary and classic cooking at this London institution, which opened in 1926.

Yauatcha £££
Chinese Map 13 A2
 15 Broadwick Street W1F 0DL
Tel 020 7494 8888
 A reinterpretation of a traditional Chinese teahouse, serving sublime dim sum and, as a surprise bonus, exquisite European-style pâtisserie.

Kensington and Chelsea

DK Choice

Alounak £
Persian Map 10 D2
 44 Westbourne Grove W2 5SH
Tel 020 7229 4158
 Queues often snake down the street, so popular is this bazaar-style café. It specializes in deliciously light Middle Eastern food at low prices. Inside, it's all bare wood tables and exposed brick walls. There's no wine on sale, so bring your own. The presence of so many Iranians dining here speaks for itself.

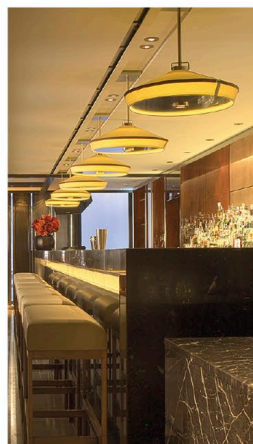
Café Mona Lisa £
French Map 18 E5
 417 King's Road SW10 0LR
Tel 020 7376 5447
 A much-loved café with friendly service and a warm feel. Specials chalked up on the blackboards are always a good option.

Raison d'Etre £
European Map 18 F2
 18 Bute Street SW7 3EX
Tel 020 7584 5008
 They bake their own bread at this very French, very popular café. Sandwiches, filled with super fresh ingredients, are delicious.

The Abingdon ££
International Map 17 C1
 54 Abingdon Road W8 6AP
Tel 020 7937 3339
 A converted pub with a refined feel. Try to secure one of the comfortable booths for high-end, brasserie-style food.

Bar Boulud ££
French Map 11 C5
 Mandarin Oriental Hyde Park, 66 Knightsbridge SW1X 7LA
Tel 020 7201 3899
 The look is chic but the mood relaxed at US star chef Daniel Boulud's London venture. A French-inspired bistro with unforgettable terrines.

The Belvedere ££
French Map 9 B5
 Holland Park (off Abbotsbury Road) W8 6LU
Tel 020 7602 1238
 Enjoy modern European fare in a sumptuous former ballroom overlooking lawns and flower gardens. A treat, whether you eat inside or out.



The sleek interior of Hakkasan Mayfair, in one of London's most exclusive areas

Big Easy American **Map** 19 A4
332–334 King's Road SW3 5UR
Tel 020 7352 4071

Specializing in lobster, ribs and live music, this restaurant is always heaving and has a terrific atmosphere. Best to book ahead.

Bill's European **Map** 10 D5
Kensington Arcade, 123 Kensington High Street W8 5SF
Tel 020 7937 1482

From small beginnings as a grocery shop, Bill's has grown into a loved restaurant chain, with great food served all day.

Bluebird European **Map** 19 A4
350 King's Road SW3 5UU
Tel 020 7559 1000

This popular restaurant serves light British dishes made from seasonal ingredients. It has a café, bar, food store and wine cellar.

Buona Sera Jam Italian **Map** 19 A4
289 King's Road SW3 5EW
Tel 020 7352 8827

A lively trattoria where you have to climb miniature ladders to reach the top-tier tables. The pizzas are terrific.

Caraffini Italian **Map** 20 D3
61–3 Lower Sloane Street SW1 8DH
Tel 020 7259 0235 **Closed Sun & bank hol Mon**

This old favourite is still hopping at lunchtimes. Plump for lobster taglierini or one of the specials.

Chez Patrick French **Map** 18 D1
7 Stratford Road W8 6RF
Tel 020 7937 6388

Front-of-house owner Patrick gives excellent advice on ordering at this intimate restaurant. Classic French recipes, mostly fish, flawlessly executed.

E&O Asian fusion **Map** 9 A2
14 Blenheim Crescent W11 1NN
Tel 020 7229 5454

Dine on dim sum, tempura, sushi or sashimi in glossy black surroundings. Specials might include pad thai or crispy sea bass. Dim sum is available all day at the bar.

The Enterprise European **Map** 19 B2
35 Walton Street SW3 2HU
Tel 020 7584 3148
A humble pub that has been converted into a well-groomed

restaurant/bar. Don't miss the impeccably cooked squid and courgette tempura starter.

Ffion's British **Map** 10 D4
51 Kensington Church Street W8 4BA
Tel 020 7937 4152

Patrons are made to feel right at home by the friendly staff here. The menu is full of home-cooked favourites; definitely worth visiting for the Sunday roast.

Gallery Mess European **Map** 19 C2
Saatchi Gallery, Duke of York's HQ, King's Road SW3 4RY
Tel 020 7730 8135

A great spot for lunch after an exhibition. Try for the most attractive tables, in the airy cloister, which overlook a leafy square. Appetizing lunches.

Jak's Mediterranean **Map** 19 B2
77 Walton Street SW3 2HT
Tel 020 3393 1796

Choose from an array of healthy, organic dishes and tempting desserts and eat in the bare-brick, softly-furnished basement.

Kensington Place Fish **Map** 9 C4
201 Kensington Church Street W8 7LX
Tel 020 7727 3184

The classic menu at this famous goldfish bowl brasserie includes superb beer-battered fish and chips, game and steaks.

Maroush Lebanese **Map** 19 B1
38 Beauchamp Place SW3 1NU
Tel 020 7581 5434

The perfect spot for a late-night bite; tender, tasty grilled dishes are available till 3/4:30am. Fine dining on the first floor. Branches on Edgware Road and Vere Street have belly dancing and live music.

The Metro British **Map** 11 C5
The Levin Hotel, 28 Basil Street SW3 1AS
Tel 020 7589 6286

A basement brasserie with delectable food and the ambience of a contemporary European tearoom. It has comfy banquettes and an open kitchen. Feels like a well-kept secret.

The Painted Heron Indian **Map** 19 A5
112 Cheyne Walk SW10 0DJ
Tel 020 7351 5232
Not a run-of-the-mill Indian restaurant. A smartly modern



Oriental minimalist decor at the stylish Asian fusion restaurant E&O

room is the setting for succulent dishes using unconventional ingredients, such as game, Nile perch and soft-shell crab. Spicing is complex but not overstated. For the health conscious, there's a vegetarian menu based on Ayurvedic principles.

La Poule au Pot French **Map** 20 E2
231 Ebury Street SW1W 8UT
Tel 020 7730 7763

Full of romance and rustic French charm, which complements the honest cooking. All the classics are on the menu, such as boeuf bourguignon and tarte tatin.

Rossopomodoro Italian **Map** 18 F4
214 Fulham Road SW10 9NB
Tel 020 7352 7677

Sourcing their ingredients and cooking knowledge directly from Naples, this branch of the family-friendly chain brings a little bit of Italy into the heart of Chelsea. Pizzas are cooked in a spectacular golden-tiled, wood-fired oven. Check out the seasonal menus.

DK Choice

Babylon at the Roof Garden British **Map** 10 D5
99 Kensington High Street W8 5SA
Tel 020 7368 3993

The "hanging gardens" overlooked by this fashionable restaurant sprawl high above the street. Eat here and explore three themed areas filled with trees, flamingos and a fish-stocked stream. Enjoy the modern British cuisine and the panorama. Best in summer, when you can dine al fresco on the terrace (though always book ahead).

Bibendum £££
French Map 19 A2
Michelin House, 81 Fulham Road SW3 6RD

Tel 020 7581 5817
 Bibendum is legendary for seasonal food, assiduous service and Michelin House's Art Nouveau stained glass as a stunning backdrop. Head chef Peter Robinson serves up classic and contemporary French food using seasonal British ingredients.

Blakes £££
Mediterranean Fusion Map 18 F3
Blakes Hotel, 33 Roland Gardens SW17 3PF
Tel 020 7370 6701
 A sleek Neo-Colonial decor prevails at the first-floor restaurant in this upmarket boutique hotel, where an eclectic menu takes in Mediterranean, Asian and British influences.

Dinner by Heston Blumenthal £££
British Map 11 C5
Mandarin Oriental Hyde Park, 66 Knightsbridge SW1X 7LA
Tel 020 7201 3833
 London's most hyped restaurant showcases this celebrity chef's inspired take on historic British cuisine. Blumenthal is well known for his innovative recipes and does not disappoint. Only for those with deep pockets, but unforgettable.

Hunan £££
Chinese Map 20 D2
51 Pimlico Road SW1W 8NE
Tel 020 7730 5712 **Closed Sun**
 Taiwanese tapas-size portions keep arriving at your table, as fiery or mild as you like, until you're full. Try the signature dish of hearty broth with minced pork, mushroom and ginger.

Kitchen W8 £££
British Map 17 C1
11–13 Abingdon Road W8 6AH
Tel 020 7937 0120
 A benchmark for quality: head chef Mark Kempson's creative Michelin-starred cooking served in a sleek environment. And it won't break the bank.

Launceston Place £££
British Map 18 E1
1a Launceston Place W8 5RL
Tel 020 7937 6912
 Imaginative modern cooking in a series of traditional, carpeted rooms. The menu features British classics given a flamboyant twist. On Saturday evenings it's the seven-course tasting menu only.

The Ledbury £££
European Map 9 C2
127 Ledbury Road W11 2AQ
Tel 020 7792 9090
 Possibly London's most happening restaurant, the realm of thrilling Australian chef Brett Graham. Expect two-Michelin-starred culinary fireworks.

Marcus £££
European Map 12 D5
The Berkeley Hotel, Wilton Place SW1X 7RL
Tel 020 7235 1200 **Closed Sun**
 Sample delectable cooking from superstar chef Marcus Wareing in the dining rooms of the Berkeley Hotel. Two Michelin stars attest to the genius behind the sophisticated fine dining.

One-0-One £££
Fish and seafood Map 11 C5
Sheraton Park Tower Hotel, 101 Knightsbridge SW1X 7RN
Tel 020 7290 7101
 Seafood's the thing at this exquisite restaurant. Try Norwegian halibut or crab in stunning recipes from head chef Pascal Proyart.

Restaurant Gordon Ramsay £££
French Map 19 C4
68 Royal Hospital Road SW3 4HP
Tel 020 7352 4441 **Closed Sat & Sun**
 Standards remain high at this triple-Michelin-starred shrine to haute cuisine. Eye-wateringly expensive, but worth a treat.

Zuma £££
Japanese Map 11 B5
5 Raphael Street SW7 1DL
Tel 020 7584 1010
 Spot the celebrities at this cool joint, drawn – like everyone – by the divine robata-grilled dishes, tempura, nigiri sushi and sashimi.

Bloomsbury and Regent's Park

Golden Hind £
British Map 12 E1
73 Marylebone Lane W1U 2PN
Tel 020 7486 3644 **Closed Sun**
 Devotees claim its fish and chips are unequalled. A welcoming, no-frills family-run place with no licence, but minimal corkage. The home-made fishcakes make an enticing alternative.

Ragam £
South Indian Map 4 F5
57 Cleveland Street W1T 4JN
Tel 020 7636 9098
 Not much to look at, but this veteran offers Kerala specialties zinging with aromatic flavour. The filled pancakes are guaranteed to wow. Choose from side dishes such as beetroot *baji* or spinach with lentils.

DK Choice

Thai Metro £
Thai Map 5 A5
38 Charlotte Street W1T 2NN
Tel 020 7436 4201
 The exemplary Thai cooking at this down-to-earth corner café has made it a smash hit. Choose carefully if you can't take your curries too hot: some of the specialties are guaranteed to make you sweat. Service is speedy and efficient, and the bill shouldn't be a nasty shock.

Burger and Lobster ££
American Map 12 F1
6 Little Portland Street W1W 7JF
Tel 020 7907 7760
 An arty American-style diner with a simple menu: a choice between a burger and lobster, with a selection of bespoke drinks designed to complement both. No reservations.



Rustic charm and traditional French cuisine at La Poule au Pot

Galvin Bistrot de Luxe ££
 French **Map 3 C5**
 66 Baker Street W1U 7DJ
 Tel 020 7935 4007

You could be in Paris in the Galvin brothers' high-class bistro. Beautifully cooked classics in a room bristling with happy customers: this is top quality French cuisine at affordable prices – excellent value Saturday lunches (£15.50 for three courses).

Malabar Junction ££
 South Indian **Map 13 B1**
 107 Great Russell Street WC1B 3NA
 Tel 020 7580 5230

This glass-roofed restaurant is decorated with wood floors and wicker chairs. The menu features specialties from Kerala, all tender, fragrant and skilfully prepared.

Orrery ££
 French **Map 4 D5**
 55–7 Marylebone High Street
 W1U 5RB
 Tel 020 7616 8000

Outstanding modern cuisine on the first floor of a converted stable block. Great attention to detail in both cooking and service. Ask for a table beside the arched windows.

DK Choice

Salt Yard ££
 Tapas **Map 5 A5**
 54 Goodge Street W1T 4NA
 Tel 020 7637 0657 **Closed Sun**

Fans claim this go-to place offers the best tapas in London. What's unique is the combination of Spanish and Italian cuisines. Fresh, top-quality ingredients are centre stage in such delights as duck and spinach *gnocchetti* and the signature courgette flowers stuffed with goat's cheese and drizzled with honey. Always heaving.



The smart interior of Salt Yard, serving Spanish and Italian tapas



Diners enjoying lunch on the outdoor decking at Clerkenwell Kitchen

Vanilla Black ££
 Vegetarian **Map 14 E1**
 17–18 Took's Court EC4A 1LB
 Tel 020 7242 2622 **Closed Sun**

Exciting and exquisitely presented vegetarian dishes in an elegant setting. Deliciously inventive, the meals prepared here are proof positive that you don't need meat.

The White Swan ££
 British **Map 14 E1**
 108 Fetter Lane EC4A 1ES
 Tel 020 7242 9696 **Closed Sat & Sun**

You'll find this place above a no-nonsense pub. The room's light and sunny, the cooking sophisticated, with gourmet twists on pub classics.

The Chancery £££
 European **Map 14 E1**
 9 Cursitor Street EC4A 1LL
 Tel 020 7831 4000 **Closed Sun**

A small legal-lawd treasure, tempting for lazy lunches. Fabulous hake, muntjac and slow-cooked pork belly.

Pied à Terre £££
 French **Map 5 A5**
 34 Charlotte Street W1T 2NH
 Tel 020 7636 1178 **Closed Sun**

Adventurous and impeccable food tops the bill at this discreet haven. A comfortable dining room and friendly staff.

The Providores and Tap Room £££
 International fusion **Map 4 D5**
 109 Marylebone High Street
 W1U 4RX
 Tel 020 7935 6175

The global fusion food has won plaudits at this showcase establishment. For lighter fare, try the downstairs tapas bar.

Roka £££
 Japanese **Map 5 A5**
 37 Charlotte Street W1T 1RR
 Tel 020 7580 6464

Sit at the wood counter in this goldfish bowl restaurant, graze on luscious sushi and watch the chefs at the robata grill.

Texture £££
 European **Map 11 C2**
 34 Portman Street W1H 7BY
 Tel 020 7224 0028 **Closed Mon & Sun**

Bold, experimental cookery from Icelandic chef Agnar Sverrisson. Expect to find cod, lamb and herbs from his homeland.

The City and the East End

Clerkenwell Kitchen £
 British **Map 6 E4**
 27–31 Clerkenwell Close EC1R 0AT
 Tel 020 7101 9959 **Closed Sat & Sun, Mon–Fri pm**

Organic produce, gutsy home cooking and appealingly modern brick-and-wood surroundings attract a loyal following. Open at lunchtimes only.

Kolossi Grill £
 Greek **Map 6 E4**
 56–60 Rosebery Avenue EC1R 4RR
 Tel 020 7278 5758 **Closed Sat lunch & Sun**

Home-made Cypriot classics have been served in this cosy, unpretentious restaurant for more than 50 years. Service is warm and friendly.

Lahore Kebab House £
 Pakistani **Map 16 E1**
 2–10 Umberston Street E1 1PY
 Tel 020 7481 9737

A traditional but spartan Pakistani spot, open late and with the kitchen on view. Spiced curries and kebabs set tastebuds tingling in this warehouse-style space. Bring your own alcohol.

Tayyabs £
 Punjabi **Map 16 F1**
 83 Fieldgate Street E1 1JU
 Tel 020 7247 6400

A local favourite serving delicious spiced curries and sizzling mixed grills. Be sure to book ahead to avoid the very long queues.

Boho Mexica ££
 Mexican **Map 8 D5**
 151–3 Commercial Street E1 6BJ
 Tel 020 7388 8418

Authentic Mexican dining experience with a friendly staff, a lively atmosphere and huge selection of dishes.

Bourne & Hollingsworth**Buildings****British**

££

Map 6 E4

42 Northampton Rd, London
EC1R 0HU

Tel 020 3174 1156

Particularly popular for brunch and cocktails, this stylish brasserie has a tempting menu of creative British dishes. Ask to be seated in the Greenhouse if possible. There is a prix-fixe lunch menu.

DK Choice**Brawn**

££

French

Map 8 E3

49 Columbia Road E2 7RG

Tel 020 7729 5692 **Closed Mon**
lunch & Sun dinner

Big, bold, full-bodied flavours can be found in abundance in Brawn's seasonal cuisine.

Dishes you might find on the daily menu are venison pie, pig's trotters and ceps with Bordelaise sauce. Accompany your choice with one of the many organic wines. The industrial-rustic dining room oozes with charm.

Le Café du Marché

££

French

Map 6 F5

22 Charterhouse Square EC1M 6DX

Tel 020 7608 1609

Closed Sun

Very French; a hideaway with accomplished classic cooking and a simple, stylish look. Menu changes every five weeks.

Carnevale

££

Vegetarian

Map 7 A4

135 Whitecross Street EC1Y 8JL

Tel 020 7250 3452

Closed Sun

Stellar culinary creations in a modest little café. Delicious Middle Eastern-inspired risottos, casseroles and curries.

Cây Tre

££

Vietnamese

Map 7 A4

301 Old Street EC1V 9LA

Tel 020 7729 8662

The menu's short, but dishes are authentic and high quality.

Surprises include some unusual combinations like beef *carpaccio* and tamarind soup special.

The Culpeper

££

British

Map 8 D5

40 Commercial Street E1 6LP

Tel 020 7247 5371

Closed Sun

& Mon

Head up to the first floor of this pub for an intimate three-course meal (the menu changes daily); on the next floor up you will find a rooftop garden, which is where many of the menu's ingredients are grown.



Contemporary dining area, L'Anima

The Gate

££

Vegetarian

Map 6 E2

370 St John Street EC1 4NN

Tel 020 7278 5483

An award-winning menu draws on influences from all over the world. The best place in town for a vegetarian weekend brunch.

Haz Plantation Place

££

Turkish

Map 15 C2

6 Mincing Lane EC3M 3BD

Tel 020 7929 3173

Closed Sun

Order the marvellous *mezze* for a range of authentic dishes, or try the perfectly cooked tuna steak with home-made chilli sauce. The set menus are a bargain.

De Palo's

££

Italian

Map 14 F2

8 Bride Court EC4Y 8DU

Tel 020 7583 8440 **Closed Sat & Sun**

Fresh ingredients and authentic Sicilian flavours are the stars at this intimate, family-owned restaurant. Try the amazing *tortiglioni* special.

The Peasant

££

British

Map 6 E2

240 St John Street EC1V 4PH

Tel 020 7336 7726

Finely executed brasserie cooking in an Victorian pub dining room. Enjoy the Chilean chef's first-rate pub food in the cavernous bar below. Splendid Sunday roasts.

Pham Sushi

££

Japanese

Map 7 A4

159 Whitecross Street EC1Y 8JL

Tel 020 7251 6336

Closed Sun

Exquisite sushi, sashimi, tempura and California rolls, all so fresh and full of flavour, you hardly notice the uninspiring interior.

Pizza East

££

Italian

Map 8 D4

56 Shoreditch High Street E1 6JJ

Tel 020 7729 1888

Located in a former tea house on Shoreditch's buzzing high

street, Pizza East promises delicious Italian staples – wood-oven pizzas, antipasti boards and fresh pasta. Alternatively, swing by for a quick cappuccino and biscotti.

The Restaurant at St Paul's

££

British

Map 15 A1

St Paul's Cathedral EC4M 8AD

Tel 020 7248 2469

Have a substantial or a light lunch or a slap-up tea in the beautifully lit crypt. Imaginative seasonal menus of fine British produce are served daily.

St John

££

British

Map 6 E2

26 St John Street EC1M 4AY

Tel 020 7251 0848

Not for the squeamish. Fergus Henderson's celebrated kitchen makes the most of offal, including heart, lung, kidney and more obscure animal parts.

Sauterelle

££

French

Map 15 C2

The Royal Exchange EC3V 3LR

Tel 020 7618 2480 **Closed Sat & Sun**

Stylish cuisine in a captivating setting: on a mezzanine overlooking the glorious courtyard of the Grade I-listed Neo-Classical Royal Exchange.

DK Choice**Vinoteca**

££

European

Map 6 E2

7 St John Street EC1M 4AA

Tel 020 7253 8786

Closed Sun

Admirers come from far and wide to this Farringdon wine bar, with its list of 300 outstanding wines and excellent modern European cuisine. Pairing suggestions are made for every dish. Arrive early for dinner; reservations are only accepted for lunch.

L'Anima £££
Italian Map 7 C5
 1 Snowden Street EC2A 2DQ
Tel 020 7422 7000 **Closed Sat & Sun**
 The food served at L'Anima is as elegant as the simple setting. Stunning recipes inspired by cuisine from southern Italy.

The Boundary £££
French Map 8 D4
 2 Boundary Street E2 7DD
Tel 020 7729 1051
 Faultless modern versions of traditional recipes are served at style guru Terence Conran's sexy, subterranean hideout.

Club Gascon £££
French Map 14 F1
 57 West Smithfield EC1A 9DS
Tel 020 7600 6144 **Closed Sun**
 Dinner here is an experience. Try the creamy signature *foie gras*, paired with a recommended wine.

Galvin La Chapelle £££
French Map 8 D5
 35 Spital Square E1 6DY
Tel 020 7299 0400
 Once a school and parish hall, this converted mansion now houses an impressive restaurant.

Goodman Steakhouse £££
Steakhouse Map 15 B1
 11 Old Jewry EC2R 8DU
Tel 020 7600 8220 **Closed Sat & Sun**
 Melt-in-the-mouth steaks are the staple at this all-American steakhouse. You can see the meat dry-ageing in the kitchen.

DK Choice

Hawksmoor £££
Steakhouse Map 16 E1
 157 Commercial Street E1 6BJ
Tel 020 7426 4850
 Hailed as serving the best steak in the country, this is one of a handful of branches around the city and a must-visit for ardent carnivores. Patrons dine on dictionary-thick steaks, produced from traditionally reared Longhorn cattle, dry-aged and cooked simply on a charcoal grill – scrumptious.

Southwark and the South Bank

Anchor and Hope ££
British Map 14 E4
 36 The Cut SE1 8LP
Tel 020 7928 9898 **Closed Sun pm**
 Large portions of such gutsy fare as calves' brains, pumpkin risotto and braised venison.



Impressive view of St Paul's Cathedral from the OXO Tower Restaurant

Champor-Champor ££
Fusion Map 15 C4
 62–4 Weston Street SE1 3QJ
Tel 020 7403 4600
 The name means "mix and match" – a perfect description of its exotic, yet wacky decoration, and Malaysian-Thai cuisine.

Dim T ££
Asian fusion Map 16 D4
 2 More London Place, Tooley Street SE1 2DB
Tel 020 7403 7000
 Be creative by choosing from a range of noodles, toppings and sauces to make your own dish. Spectacular river views.

José ££
Spanish Map 15 C4
 104 Bermondsey Street SE1 3UB
Tel 020 7403 4902
 Team excellent Barcelona-style tapas with a choice from the varied list of sherries and wines. An authentic experience.

The Laughing Gravy ££
British Map 14 F3
 154–156 Blackfriars Road SE1 8EN
Tel 020 7998 1707
 A laid-back restaurant, with a more lively bar, housed in an old foundry building. A well-chosen wine list complements the menu of modern British cuisine.

Ping Pong ££
Chinese Map 14 D4
 Festival Terrace, Southbank Centre SE1 8XX
Tel 020 7960 4160
 A cool, contemporary restaurant serving dim sum close to the South Bank. There's a huge selection of cocktails too.

Pizarro ££
Spanish Map 15 C5
 194 Bermondsey Street SE1 3TQ
Tel 020 7378 9455
 Enjoy classy tapas and flavour-heavy Spanish mains on window

seats, at the bar or in the comfortable, rustically-styled main restaurant at the back.

Tapas Brindisa ££
Spanish Map 15 B4
 18–20 Southwark Street SE1 1TJ
Tel 020 7357 8880
 Hearty flavours steal the show at this animated tapas bar. Fantastic Serrano hams, Cantabrian anchovies and piquillo peppers.

Tito's Peruvian Restaurant ££
Peruvian Map 15 B4
 4–6 London Bridge Street SE1 9SG
Tel 020 7407 7787
 Refresh yourself with a pisco sour while you wait for robust and spicy regional dishes, many meat-based, at this brightly lit local favourite.

Wright Brothers Oyster and Porter House ££
Seafood Map 15 B3
 11 Stoney Street SE1 9AD
Tel 020 7403 9554
 Fast food with a difference: market-fresh fish and shellfish from Cornwall. The oysters are sublime. Very informal.

DK Choice

OXO Tower Restaurant, Bar and Brasserie £££
European Map 14 E3
 Oxo Tower Wharf, Barge House Street SE1 9GY
Tel 020 7803 3888
 Whether you're lunching or dining, the eighth-floor view will take your breath away; colourful by day, glittering by night. Eat on the terrace in summer, but when it's cold, the picture windows bring the outside in. Choose between the relaxed brasserie and the sophisticated restaurant, both serving modern British classics.



The relaxed dining area of The Laughing Gravy, in Southwark

Roast British £££
Map 15 B3
The Floral Hall, Stoney Street SE1 1TL
Tel 020 3006 6111
 A smart, light-filled dining room in the heart of Borough Market. Come for a whopping breakfast or succulent roasts.

Further Afield

Anarkali Indian £
303–305 King Street, Hammersmith W6 9NH
Tel 020 8748 1760
 A Hammersmith restaurant in a class of its own. Unique, subtle spicing and a great choice for vegetarians. Delightful service.

DK Choice

Brady's British £
39 Jew's Row, Wandsworth SW18 7B
Tel 020 8877 9599 **Closed Sun**
 "The best fish and chips in London", assert enthusiasts of this Wandsworth bistro with a suitably seaside atmosphere. Choose from line-caught fresh fish, battered or grilled, with perfect chips – crunchy outside and fluffy inside – a pint of prawns, or smoked salmon. Finish with a traditional English treacle tart or apple crumble.

Gem Turkish £
Map 6 F1
265 Upper Street, Islington N1 2UQ
Tel 020 7359 0405
 Gem by name and by nature. Fragrant *mezze* at bargain prices

in a charming white-painted room decorated with Kurdish farm implements. The speciality is the wonderful *qatme* (stuffed Kurdish bread).

Khan's Indian £
159 Lavender Hill, Battersea SW11 5QH
Tel 020 7978 4455
 Low-fat, colouring-free authentic curries with a sufficiently broad menu to appeal to a range of palates. Takeaway also available to those staying locally.

Mamuška Polish £
16 Elephant and Castle, Hackney SE1 6TH
Tel 020 3602 1898
 This cheerful restaurant serves authentic Polish favourites. The menu changes regularly but stalwarts include excellent *pierogi* and *schabowy*. There is plenty for vegetarians and meat-eaters alike.

Mandalay Burmese £
Map 3 A5
444 Edgware Road, Paddington W2 1EG
Tel 020 7258 3696 **Closed Sun**
 This basic eatery is an ideal introduction to Burmese food, best-described as a fusion of Chinese, Indian and Thai cuisines.

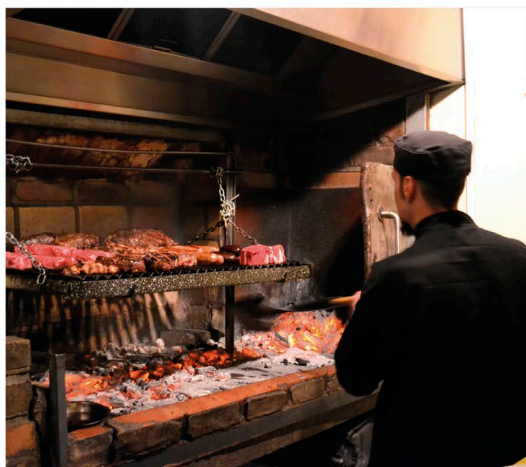
Taiwan Village Taiwanese £
Map 17 A5
85 Lillie Road, Fulham SW6 1UD
Tel 020 7381 2900 **Closed Mon**
 Dishes draw on regional cuisines, including those from Taiwan, Hunan and Szechuan. If you are hungry, opt for the "set feast".

Zumbura Indian £
36 Old Town, Clapham SW4 0LB
Tel 020 7720 7902
 Off the beaten tourist track, this place serves up authentic Punjabi food (don't miss the comforting gourd and lentil dish, *ghiya channa daal*) in a wonderfully stylish setting; the owners were previously interior designers. Sip top-notch cocktails and sample a range of delicious tasting dishes.

Buen Ayre Steakhouse ££
Map 8 F1
50 Broadway Market, Hackney E8 4QJ
Tel 020 7275 9900
 Expect a warm Argentinian welcome at this back-to-basics Hackney hotspot. Popular with rampant carnivores, perfectly cooked Argentinian steak and grilled meats are the order of the day. The wine list is huge and will not fail to impress.

DK Choice

Canton Arms British ££
Map 21 C4
177 South Lambeth Road, Stockwell SW8 1XP
Tel 020 7582 8710
 In a culinary desert, this stand-out gastropub is worth crossing the river for. Its style is plain and countrified – bar at the front, restaurant at the back – and the food is knock-out: gutsy, meaty flavours, interesting textures and combinations. Bookings cannot be made in advance, so head there in good time to avoid disappointment.



Argentine grill and steakhouse, Buen Ayre

The Depot ££
British
 Tideway Yard, 125 Mortlake High Street, Barnes SW14 8SN
Tel 0844 288 0726
 A tranquil riverside setting and superior cooking have made this brasserie a hit. Try for a window table or enjoy the outdoor dining terrace in the summer.

Emile's ££
European
 98 Felsham Road, Putney SW15 1DQ
Tel 020 8789 3323 **Closed Sun**
 A Putney treasure where good food is served in an unfussy room. A blackboard, which is brought to your table, displays the seasonal menu.

The Greenwich Union ££
British **Map** 23 B3
 56 Royal Hill, Greenwich SE10 8RT
Tel 020 8692 6258
 A local landmark, this pub showcases a unique range of beers. Menus recommend ale pairings for each delicious traditional dish.

Indian Zing ££
Indian
 236 King Street, Hammersmith W6 0RF
Tel 020 8748 5959
 A noteworthy wine list and contemporary Indian cuisine, prepared with panache at this upmarket gem.

Jin-Kichi ££
Japanese **Map** 1 A4
 73 Heath Street, Hampstead NW3 6UG
Tel 020 7794 6158 **Closed Mon**
 This tiny piece of Tokyo can be found in Hampstead, with a grill as a focus, well-spaced tables, efficient service and sublime sushi. The food is authentic and delicious – particularly the skewers.



Fine dining establishment Chez Bruce, Wandsworth Common

Kennington Tandoori ££
Indian **Map** 22 E1
 313 Kennington Road, Kennington SE11 4QE
Tel 020 7735 9247
 A calm refuge reputed to offer the best curries in London. Novel dishes are mixed in with the classics.

Kew Gardens Hotel ££
British
 292 Sandycroft Road, Kew TW9
Tel 020 8940 2220
 Perfectly located almost beside Kew Gardens, this lovely hostelry has great ales and moreish gastro food. The menu changes on a monthly basis to make the most of seasonal produce.

Lamberts ££
British
 2 Station Parade, Balham High Road SW12 9AZ
Tel 020 8675 2233 **Closed Mon**
 Harmonious cuisine, top-notch organic ingredients and comfortable, easy surroundings. Classic

favourites sit side by side with modern variations. The wine list excels and prices are sensible.

Loebster Pot ££
French **Map** 22 D3
 3 Kennington Lane, Kennington SE11 4RG
Tel 020 7582 5556 **Closed Mon & Sun**
 Walk through the door and you're in Brittany, complete with piped seagulls. Try the eight-course "surprise" menu. Book ahead.

The Manor ££
British
 148 Clapham Manor Street, Clapham SW4 6BX
Tel 020 7720 4662 **Closed Mon, Sun eve, Tue lunch**
 The decor may be casual but the food is innovative, and worth making the trip out of the city for. Choose the tasting menu (there's one for vegetarians) and enjoy an evening of modernist cooking.

North China ££
Chinese
 305 Uxbridge Road, Acton W3 9QU
Tel 020 8992 9183
 A family affair set up in 1976 by the current owner's father, this little restaurant offers mouth-watering dishes with specialities from north and south China.

Ottolenghi ££
Mediterranean **Map** 6 F1
 287 Upper Street, Islington N1 2TZ
Tel 020 7288 1454
 The Islington flagship restaurant of a popular chain and sister to the exquisite Nopi (see p297). Vegetables are given top billing (though there is a selection of meat dishes) and served in a tasty Mediterranean and Middle Eastern fashion.

El Parador ££
Tapas **Map** 4 F2
 245 Eversholt Street, Camden NW1 1BA
Tel 020 7387 2789

A small, family-run Spanish restaurant. Simplicity is the keynote here, both in the sunny decoration – yellow walls, terracotta floor, wooden chairs – and market-fresh ingredients.

Le Sacré Coeur ££
French **Map** 6 E1
 18 Theberton Street, Islington N1 0QX
Tel 020 7354 2618
 Montmartre comes to Islington in this cosy Parisian spot. Classic French style, with poster-lined walls, wooden beams, blue-and-white checked tablecloths and superior traditional dishes. Unfailingly friendly service.



A selection of tempting salads on display at Ottolenghi



Prime grilled meats served up at Gaucho, which has branches across the capital

Le Salon Privé ££ French

43 Crown Road, St Margarets TW1
Tel 020 8892 0602 **Closed Mon**
The best of French bistro cooking with fresh seasonal ingredients. This charming place has an intimate atmosphere and a great wine list.

Singapore Garden ££ Singaporean

83 Fairfax Road, Swiss Cottage NW6 4DY
Tel 020 7328 5314
A jovial Swiss Cottage veteran serving amazing soft-shelled crabs, with chillies and garlic. Also recommended is the beef *rendang* (slow cooked beef in thick coconut sauce).

Tatra ££ Polish

24 Goldhawk Road, Shepherd's Bush W12 8DH
Tel 020 8749 8193 **Closed lunch**
This Shepherd's Bush local blends the most appetizing tastes from Eastern Europe. At dinner, be prepared: sampling the flavoured vodka is almost compulsory.



The sunny outdoor terrace at the River Café

Le Vacherin ££ French

76-7 South Parade, Chiswick W4 5LF
Tel 020 8742 2121
A neighbourhood bistro with a refined, intimate air. It boasts a sure hand in the kitchen and old-fashioned service. The set menu affords good value.

The Wells ££ British Map 1 B4

30 Well Walk, Hampstead NW3 1BX
Tel 020 7794 3785
Take a ramble on Hampstead Heath before heading to this splendid gastropub. Modern European specialties are on the menu in the dining room, with traditional bar snacks downstairs. Enjoy the pretty terrace when the weather is good. Busy at weekends.

DK Choice

Chez Bruce £££ British

2 Bellevue Road, Wandsworth Common SW17 7EG
Tel 020 8672 0114
Bruce Poole's modern British food has strong classical French notes with an emphasis on offal, fish and remarkable flavour combinations. Specialities include home-made charcuterie and bread, and slow-cooked meats. Overlooking Wandsworth Common, this light, refined restaurant has maintained a reputation for its food, wine and service.

Gaucho £££ Steakhouse Map 1 A4

64 Heath Street, Hampstead NW3 1DN
Tel 020 7431 8222
A destination for meat-lovers: hearty steaks are cooked on a

genuine Argentinian *asado* barbecue at the north London outpost of this stylish chain of restaurants. As well as an à la carte menu, there is a tasting menu and a "carnivore's feast".

The Glasshouse £££ European

14 Station Parade, Kew TW9 3PZ
Tel 020 8940 6777
Occasional and subtle Asian touches infuse the contemporary European food at this light, urban, award-winning restaurant. An impressive wine list complements the menu. Comfortable, relaxed and excellent value for money.

DK Choice

River Café £££ Italian

Thames Wharf, Rainville Road, Hammersmith W6 9HA
Tel 020 7386 4200
First-rate seasonal ingredients, cooked simply, is Ruth Rogers' ethos at her famous Hammer-smith eatery – one of the first in London to make the sourcing of sustainable ingredients a priority. It is sophisticated, in a canteen style, with a wood-burner and open kitchen. The rustic Italian meals rarely disappoint and sit alongside the more refined dishes on the menu. A pricey option, but worth every penny.

Trinity £££ British

4 The Polygon, Clapham SW4 0JG
Tel 020 7622 1199
The wonderfully complex flavours of Adam Byatt's cooking draw people to this Clapham restaurant. Daily changing menus might include delights like butter poached lobster, slow cooked pork or wild sea trout with langoustines and seaweed gnocchi. Exemplary service in a stylish setting.

La Trompette £££ French

5-7 Devonshire Road, Chiswick W4 2EU
Tel 020 8747 1836
Sister of the Chez Bruce (see *opposite*) outlet, the menu at Bruce Poole's Chiswick outpost has roots in regional France. Modern French food defined by charcuterie and *confits*; rounded off with comforting desserts. Relaxed atmosphere and excellent value for money.

Light Meals and Snacks

When you want to make the most of the available sightseeing time, it doesn't always make sense to sit down for a lengthy restaurant meal. Or perhaps you don't have the budget or the appetite for a three-course affair. London has an abundance of eateries for every taste and occasion – many of them unmissable institutions – from traditional fish-and-chip and pie-and-mash shops to elegant tearooms and cool cafés.

Breakfast and Brunch

A good breakfast or brunch prepares you for a solid day's sightseeing, and the "full English" (see p294) is always a good start. Many hotels serve this classic British meal to residents and non-residents, and there are plenty of "greasy spoons" (traditional cafés) around the city with the artery-clogging morning meal on the menu.

Though a little pricey, **Simpson's-in-the-Strand** offers an old-fashioned breakfast menu (as well as classic lunchtime and dinner roasts) in a historic panelled dining room. A breakfast staple is the egg: scrambled, poached, fried, boiled, most menus are dominated by this simple ingredient and it continues to feature during brunch, an increasingly popular meal in the city. The spacious, modern restaurant in the back of popular French grocer/delicatessen **Villandry** serves one of the best on Saturday and Sunday.

American restaurants such as **Joe Allen** and **Christopher's** also offer brunch; or head for well-heeled Westbourne Grove, where it's a weekend ritual at relaxed eateries such as **202**. **The Breakfast Club**, a trendy diner with a few branches around the city, serves a variety of breakfast-style meals all day, but for a more sophisticated experience, **34 Mayfair** is certainly worth a visit. **The Riding House Café** has a scrumptious weekend brunch, as does **Duck & Waffle**, which serves delicious dishes with stunning views of the city from its 40th-floor restaurant.

For continental breakfasts comprising pastries and a coffee, there is a huge array of independent cafés to choose from, as well as dependable chains. The elegantly old-world **The Wolseley** in Piccadilly serves croissants, brioches and cooked breakfasts in opulent surroundings but those who want something simpler should pick from any of the coffee shops listed below.

Coffee and Tea

For a cappuccino or espresso at any time of day, step into round-the-clock Soho stalwart **Bar Italia**, which also serves a range of pastries and paninis; it's a legendary late-night pit-stop, full of colourful characters. There is no shortage of coffee-bar chains, but one of the best is **Caffè Nero**, which dispenses authentic Italian coffee at reasonable prices across town.

If you're out shopping, many of London's department stores have their own cafés: Harvey Nichols has one of the most stylish, while Selfridges has a branch of the cool Moroccan tearoom Momo. In Portobello Market, quaint tearoom **Still Too Few**, below the antique shop of the same name, serves tea, sandwiches and cakes to bric-a-brac hunters on Saturdays. Superb coffee (and cakes) can also be found at the **Monmouth Coffee House** in Covent Garden.

Pâtisseries such as **Maison Bertaux** and **Pâtisserie Valerie** are a delight, with mouth-watering window displays of French pastries, and **Paul** offers delicious tarts and other treats in a Parisian-café atmosphere. If you're strolling in picturesque Little Venice, **Café Laville**

commands a spectacular view over Regent's Canal.

Bluebird, Terence Conran's multi-faceted food centre in the converted 1920s Bluebird motor garage on the King's Road, has a café with tables on its cobbled forecourt, as well as a more formal restaurant, bar and market.

No visit to London would be complete without afternoon tea. Top hotels such as **The Ritz** and **Brown's** offer pots of your choice of tea, scones with jam and cream, thin cucumber sandwiches and delicious cakes galore. For a relaxed treat in the beautiful Kensington Gardens, there's nothing to beat **The Orangery**. Its selection of English teas and cakes tastes even better in the elegant surroundings of Sir John Vanbrugh's 18th-century building. **Fortnum & Mason** (see p317) serves both afternoon and high teas. In Kew, the **The Original Maids of Honour** tearoom offers pastries reputedly enjoyed by Henry VIII. For a more modern experience, **Sketch** offers exquisite contemporary confections in a restyled Georgian room.

Museum and Theatre Cafés

Most museums and galleries have cafés, including the Royal Academy, Tate Modern (with wonderful views over the Thames), the National Portrait Gallery and the British Museum. BFI Southbank has the buzzing **Riverfront Bar & Café**, much frequented by cinephiles, while St Martin-in-the-Fields church in Trafalgar Square, famous for its concerts, has the capacious self-service **Café in the Crypt**.

Although some of these tend to be slightly expensive, their locations often justify the cost. The stunning interiors of **Benugo**, the café found in the original Morris, Gamble and Poynter rooms of the Victoria & Albert Museum, are definitely worth the price of a cup of tea and a sandwich.

Lunches

For those on the go, there is a plethora of sandwich chains with branches throughout the city: **Pret a Manger** serves a good range of prepacked sandwiches, salads, cakes and soft drinks, and **Eat** offers a daily-changing menu of interesting soups and salads made using seasonal ingredients, as well as sandwiches made with home-made breads and tortilla wraps.

Healthy fast-food chain **Leon** offers a great range of lunchtime alternatives to the sandwich, such as curry pots, salads and wraps. **Itsu** and **Wasabi** are also excellent for the health-conscious luncher, with a range of Asian-inspired soups, salads and sushi. Supermarkets are also a good choice for those on a budget as they often offer a lunchtime meal deal: look out for branches of Tesco, Sainsbury's and Marks & Spencer.

Delis

With Londoners becoming more and more interested in high-quality foods from small producers in Britain and abroad, there has been a boom in stylish delis, many of which provide seating so that you can sample their wares on site. **Minkies** deli in north London is renowned for its award-winning food. The chic **Luigi's** in the south sells delicious Italian fare, from fresh pasta to farmhouse cheeses, freshly roasted vegetables and salads, while deli/cheese shop **La Fromagerie** in Marylebone has a large communal table in the back for light bites. The family-run delicatessen/lunchroom **Paul Rothe & Son**, which opened in the early 1900s, serves sandwiches and soups among shelves of "British and foreign provisions".

Diners and Burger Joints

London is full of American-style fast-food joints, serving burgers, fries, fried chicken, apple pie, milk shakes and cola, particularly around Soho, Leicester Square, Shaftesbury

Avenue and Covent Garden. Time-honoured establishments include family favourite

Maxwell's in Covent Garden, the **Hard Rock Café** and the fun, 1950s-kitsch **Ed's Easy Diner**, but thanks to the continuing vogue for retro burger eateries, choices are plentiful. **GBK** (Gourmet Burger Kitchen) and **Byron** (both with several branches) are two of the best, while **Lucky 7** and **The Diner** serve up burgers and breakfasts in a dice-and-cards-themed setting, complete with vinyl-seated booths and blaring rock'n'roll.

The **Electric Diner** in Notting Hill is open from 8am until late at night and offers French-American diner-style food throughout the day, both at the bar and in booths. For great-tasting burgers made with high quality all-British ingredients, visit **Honest Burgers**, which has several locations across London, and also offers gluten-free burger buns. Covent Garden's **Shake Shack** has a more extensive menu, complete with frozen custard shakes and even snacks for dogs.

Pizza and Pasta

Italian food has now become a staple of the British diet. Street-side stands offer variable quality, but there are decent well-established chains with lots of branches, including **Ask. Pizza Express** offers thin-crust pizzas that are a step up from the norm. Try the elegant Georgian townhouse outlet on Chelsea's King's Road, or the branch in Soho that plays live jazz. A smaller chain, **Pizza East**, runs one of the largest, rowdiest pizzerias in London, in a former tea warehouse on Shoreditch High Street.

The **Carluccio's** chain, which has a branch with alfresco tables in pedestrianized St Christopher's Place, serves good-quality, freshly made pastas and salads. Inexpensive pasta is also served at bustling trattorias such as **La Porchetta Pollo Bar** in Soho. **Marine Ices** near Camden Market serves

great pizza and pasta in addition to its famous ice cream (see Street Food, pp310–11).

From humble beginnings in street markets and roving food vans, **Franco Manca**, **Pizza Pilgrims** and **Homeslice** have taken up permanent residency around the city, the last providing tasty wood-fired pizzas and the first two specializing in authentic Neapolitan sourdough pizzas.

Food in Pubs

Perhaps the biggest – and most popular – change in the London dining scene has been the transformation of the food found in pubs. Before the early 1990s, most pubs that provided food at all offered a pretty simple range of salads and sandwiches, put together with no great imagination (see pp312–15).

The rapid rise of the gastropub, in which the food has equal billing with the beer selection, steadily made the pub a viable dining option. Grilled steaks, fresh fish or English classics like sausage and mash have been reinvigorated by the use of first-rate, seasonal or organic ingredients and the menus have become increasingly sophisticated, mixing Mediterranean, Asian and other global influences.

The neighbourhood gastropub has become an essential London institution. Some have separate dining rooms while others have retained the traditional pub style, where you order at the bar from a chalkboard menu. All tend to be more relaxed than formal restaurants, but they can get busy, so book in advance. Among the best are **The Eagle**, **The Engineer**, **The Lansdowne**, **The Jugged Hare** and the **Wells Tavern**.

Fish and Chips

Fish and chips is typically considered the national dish of Britain, with a "chippy" serving a choice of fish (typically cod) deep-fried in batter, accompanied by chips

(thicker cut than French fries). A range of accompaniments includes baps (soft bread rolls) for a "chip buttie" (a chip sandwich), mushy peas, pickled eggs or onions. Four of the best places for such fare are the **North Sea Fish Restaurant**, **Rock & Sole Plaice**, **Faulkner's** and **Fish Central**. Such is its popularity, fish and chips is increasingly available on the menu in smart restaurants and chains such as **Fish!**

Noodle Bars

Popular chain **Wagamama** still draws queues for its good-value noodles and other Asian dishes in airy yet basic environs; customers sit at long communal tables.

On The Bab serves comforting Korean street food, including soup noodles and buns. In Soho, **Tuk Tuk** noodle bar serves up a range of Thai noodle dishes, and is open until late. Nearby **Tonkotsu** is famed for its tasty ramen noodles, while **Taro** is a busy Japanese diner offering inexpensive sushi, ramen and teriyaki. Family-run restaurant **Viet Pho** is small but certainly worth a visit for authentic Vietnamese cuisine.

A Taste of the East End

In the East End, Jewish bakeries such as **Brick Lane Beigel Bake** are open 24 hours a day. Fresh plain bagels, with a wide range of fillings, are available here.

The East End also has the largest number of pie and mash shops, which provide an inexpensive and satisfying "nosh-up" of jellied eels and potatoes, or meat pie with mash and liquor (green parsley sauce). Two classic venues, both near Victoria Park are **G Kelly** and **S&R Kelly**; or try **Manze's** on Tower Bridge Road. For the real East End experience, you should wash your meal down with a mug of strong, hot tea.

Street Food

Street food markets have become increasingly popular in London, and have gone far beyond the traditional roasted chestnuts sold on London's

DIRECTORY

Breakfast and Brunch

202

202 Westbourne Grove W11. **Map** 9 C2.

34 Mayfair

34 Grosvenor Square W1. **Map** 12 D2.

The Breakfast Club

33 D'Arblay St W1. **Map** 13 A2.

Christopher's

18 Wellington St WC2. **Map** 13 C2.

Duck and Waffle

Heron Tower, 110 Bishopsgate EC2. **Map** 15 C1.

Joe Allen

13 Exeter St WC2. **Map** 13 C2.

The Riding House Café

43–51 Great Titchfield St W1. **Map** 12 F1.

Simpson's-in-the-Strand

100 Strand WC2. **Map** 13 C2.

Villandry

170 Great Portland St W1. **Map** 4 F5.

The Wolseley

160 Piccadilly W1. **Map** 12 F3.

Coffee and Tea

Bar Italia

22 Frith St W1. **Map** 13 A2.

Bluebird

350 King's Rd SW3. **Map** 19 A4.

Brown's

47 Maddox St W1. **Map** 12 F2.

Café Laville

Little Venice Parade, 453 Edgware Rd W2.

Fortnum & Mason

181 Piccadilly W1. **Map** 12 F3.

The Original Maids of Honour

288 Kew Rd, Richmond, Surrey.

Maison Bertaux

28 Greek St W1. **Map** 13 A1.

Monmouth Coffee House

27 Monmouth St WC2. **Map** 13 B2.

The Orangery

Kensington Palace, Kensington Gardens W8. **Map** 10 D3.

Patisserie Valerie

105 Marylebone High St W1. **Map** 4 D5.

Paul

29 Bedford St WC2. **Map** 13 B2.

The Ritz

150 Piccadilly W1. **Map** 12 F3.

Sketch

9 Conduit St W1. **Map** 12 F2.

Still Too Few

300 Westbourne Grove W11. **Map** 9 B2.

Museum and Theatre Cafés

Benugo

Victoria & Albert Museum, Cromwell Road SW7. **Map** 19 A1.

Café in the Crypt

St Martin-in-the-Fields, Duncannon St WC2. **Map** 13 B3.

Riverfront Bar & Kitchen

BFI Southbank, South Bank SE1. **Map** 14 D3.

Lunches

(All have several branches around the city.)

EAT

12 Oxo Tower Wharf, Barge House St SE1. **Map** 14 E3.

Itsu

31 Broadwick St W1. **Map** 13 A2.

Leon

275 Regent St W1. **Map** 12 F1.

Pret a Manger

88 Strand WC2. **Map** 13 C3.

Wasabi

388 Strand WC2. **Map** 13 C2.

Delis

La Fromagerie

2–6 Moxon St W1. **Map** 4 D5.

Luigi's

349 Fulham Rd SW6. **Map** 18 F4.

Minkies

Chamberlayne Rd NW10.

Paul Rothe & Son

35 Marylebone Lane W1. **Map** 12 D1.

Diners and Burger Joints

Byron

11 Haymarket SW1. **Map** 13 A3. *(One of several branches.)*

The Diner

190 Shaftesbury Ave WC2. **Map** 13 B1. *(One of several branches.)*

Ed's Easy Diner

12 Moor St W1. **Map** 13 B2.

street corners. They epitomize all that is great about London's food scene: culinary delights from all over the world standing shoulder to shoulder, offering locals and visitors alike a choice like no other.

Borough Market stalls are exceptionally good for street food: **Bread Ahead** makes an excellent range of fresh loaves and exquisite sweet doughnuts, while **The German Deli** grills up bratwursts at lunchtime; **Horn OK Please** provides a vegetarian option with spicy Indian dishes to go.

The Global Kitchen in Camden Lock serves up some of the finest street food in the capital, including Lebanese falafel, French crêpes, Jamaican jerk chicken, Japanese sushi,

Turkish wraps, Mexican chilli, American BBQ, Mediterranean salads and Malaysian dishes, to name but a few of the appetizing options.

The Real Food Market champions small producers and hosts street food markets and festivals throughout the year. Market locations vary so check the website to find out where they're setting up next. **Street Feast** similarly takes over London during the summer months; look out for the Dalston Yard festival, which serves an eclectic range of delicious and artisanal foods from gourmet burgers and grilled cheese toasties to cream-filled cupcakes and home-made gelato. Be sure to seek out B.O.B's Lobster

there for fresh and succulent lobster rolls. **KERB** markets are held in a few locations around the city including Paddington (monthly) and by the Gherkin (weekly). KERB's traders rotate so check the website to see what's on offer when you visit – favourites include Anna Mae's unique take on macaroni cheese and Batch Bakery's oozing chocolate brownies.

Next to Royal Festival Hall, the **Southbank Centre Food Market** is home to a variety of international favourites including Greek-style wraps, curries, paellas, sweet treats and tasty ingredients to take home. It is open on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays, from lunchtime to early evening.

DIRECTORY

Electric Diner

191 Portobello Rd W11.
Map 9 B2.

GBK

13–14 Maiden Lane, WC2.
Map 13 C2.
(One of several branches.)

Hard Rock Café

150 Old Park Lane W1.
Map 12 E4.

Honest Burgers

4A Meard St W1. **Map** 13 A2. *(One of several branches.)*

Lucky 7

127 Westbourne Park Rd W2. **Map** 9 C1.

Maxwell's

8 James St WC2. **Map** 13 C2.

Shake Shack

24 Market Building, The Piazza WC2. **Map** 13 C2.

Pizza and Pasta

Ask

56–60 Wigmore St W1.
Map 12 D1.
(One of several branches.)

Carluccio's

St Christopher's Place W1.
Map 12 E2.
(One of several branches.)

Franco Manca

98 Tottenham Court Rd W1. **Map** 5 A5.
(One of several branches.)

Homeslice

13 Neal's Yard WC2.
Map 13 B1.

Marine Ices

61 Chalk Farm Rd NW1.

Pizza East

56 Shoreditch High Street E1. **Map** 13 A2.

Pizza Express

30 Coptic St WC1.
Map 13 B1.
(One of several branches.)

Pizza Pilgrims

11 Dean St W1.
Map 13 A1.
(One of several branches.)

La Porchetta Pollo Bar

20 Old Compton St W1.
Map 13 A2.

Fish and Chips

Faulkner's

424–6 Kingsland Rd E8.

Fish!

Borough Market SE1.
Map 15 B4.

Fish Central

149–155 Central St EC1.
Map 7 A3.

North Sea Fish Restaurant

7–8 Leigh St WC1.
Map 5 B4.

Rock & Sole Plaiçe

47 Endell St WC2.
Map 13 B1.

Noodle Bars

On The Bab

36 Wellington St WC2.
Map 13 C2.

Taro

59–61 Brewer St W1.
Map 13 A2.

Tuk Tuk

Old Compton St W1.
Map 13 A2.

Tonkotsu

63 Dean St W1.
Map 13 A1.
(One of several branches.)

Viet Pho

34 Greek St W1.
Map 13 A2

Wagamama

101 Wigmore St W1.
Map 12 D1.
(One of several branches.)

A Taste of the East End

Brick Lane Beigel Bake

159 Brick Lane E1.
Map 8 E5.

G Kelly

526 Roman Rd E3.
Map 8 D4.

S&R Kelly

284 Bethnal Green Rd E2.
Map 8 F3.

Manze's

87 Tower Bridge Rd SE1.
Map 16 D5.

Street Food

Bread Ahead

Borough Market SE1.
Map 15 B4.

The German Deli

Borough Market SE1.
Map 15 B4.


The Global Kitchen

Camden Lock NW1.


Horn OK Please

Borough Market SE1.
Map 15 B4.

KERB

Various locations.
 kerbfood.com

The Real Food Market

Various locations.
 realfoodfestival.co.uk

Southbank Centre

Food Market
Sutton Walk SE1.
Map 14 D4.

Street Feast – Dalston Yard

Hartwell St E8.
(One of several locations.)

London Pubs and Bars

Affectionately known as a “pub”, “boozer” or “the local”, a public house was originally just that – a house in which the public could eat, drink and even stay the night. Large inns with courtyards, such as the George Inn, were originally stopping points for horse-drawn coach services. Their names have hung on signs outside since 1393, when King Richard II decreed that they should replace the usual bush outside the door. As most people were illiterate, names that could easily be illustrated were chosen, such as the Rose & Crown, coats of arms (Freemasons’ Arms), historical figures (Princess Louise) or heraldic animals (Red Lion). Some pubs stand on historic public house sites, for example the Ship, the Lamb and Flag, and the City Barge. However, many of the finest ones date from the emergence of “gin palaces” in the late 1800s, where Londoners took refuge from the misery of their poverty amid lavish interiors with elaborate decoration. Since the 1990s cocktail-bar boom and the rise of the gastropub, the traditional pub has been given an image makeover, restoring the British institution’s popularity with a fashionable crowd.

Rules and Conventions

Visitors to London have long been bemused by early pub closing times, which made a night out a bit tricky – an after-theatre nightcap, for example, was usually out of the question outside of your hotel. In theory, reforms to the licensing laws, which came into effect in 2005, mean pubs can now stay open up to 24 hours, as long as they obtain permission from their local authority, and many extend their hours beyond the standard 11am–11pm.

You must be aged at least 18 to buy or drink alcohol, and at least 14 to enter a pub without an adult. Children can be taken into pubs that serve food, or may use outside areas. Order drinks at the bar and pay when you are served; tips are not customary unless you are served food and drink at a table. “Last orders” are usually called 10 minutes before closing, then “time” is called, and a further 20 minutes is then allowed for finishing drinks. Smoking is banned in all pubs and clubs, though some have outdoor smoking areas.

British Beer

The most traditional beers are available in various strengths and styles, and are flat (not fizzy) and served only lightly cooled. The spectrum of bottled beers goes from “light” ale, through “pale”, “brown”, “bitter” and the strong “old”. A sweeter, lower-alcohol alternative is shandy, a classic mixture of draught beer or lager and lemonade. Many traditional methods of brewing and serving beer have been preserved over the years, and there is a great variety of “real ales” in London pubs.

The main London brewers are Young’s (try their strong “Winter Warmer” beer), Meantime and Fuller’s. Competing with these city stalwarts is an increasing number of microbreweries, championing “craft beers”. Beavertown, Kernel, Camden Town Brewery and Brixton Brewery are just some of the many brewing up around the capital. The Scottish craft beer company **Brewdog** has a number of pubs around the city, serving up a good variety of beers, as does the **Craft Beer Co.** On Saturdays, beer connoisseurs should head to the “Bermondsey Beer Mile”, home to half a dozen or so

microbreweries mostly nestled in the railway arches under the tramline.

Other Pub Drinks

Cider is another traditional English alcoholic drink found in every pub. Made from apples, it comes in a range of strengths and degrees of dryness, and offers a sweet alternative to beer. Blended Scotch whisky and malt whiskies are also staples, as is gin, usually drunk with tonic water. During the winter, mulled wine (warm and spicy) or hot toddies (brandy or whisky with hot water and sugar) may be served and in summer many Brits enjoy a pitcher of Pimms (a gin-based fruit cup, or punch, usually served with a garnish of summer fruits) during the warmer months. Non-alcoholic drinks are also always available.

Historic Pubs

Many pubs have a fascinating history and decor, whether it is a beamed medieval snug or an extraordinary Arts and Crafts interior, as at the **Black Friar**, a must-see temple to imbibing, featuring bronze bas reliefs and an intimate, marble-and-mosaic chamber at the back. While many of the gin palaces of the 19th century have been revamped or abandoned, there are some notable survivors. At the **Prince Alfred** in Maida Vale, the bar is divided by “snobscreens”, a feature that enabled the upper set to enjoy a drink without mixing with their servants. The semicircular **Viaduct Tavern**, opposite the Old Bailey, ablaze with mirrors, chandeliers and etched glass, is a suitably stately setting for distinguished barristers and judges, while the **Princess Louise** retains its magnificent central mahogany bar, complete with original clock, moulded ceiling and vivid wall tiles. Less grand but just as lovingly decorated is the tiny, tiled **Dog & Duck** in Soho – but you may have to battle for a seat or (in warm weather)

stand outside with its many devotees. Many pubs have strong literary associations, such as **Ye Olde Cheshire Cheese**, which is associated with Dr Johnson, while Charles Dickens frequented the **Trafalgar Tavern** and Oscar Wilde often went to **The Salisbury**. Samuel Pepys witnessed the Great Fire of London from the **Anchor**, on the river at Bankside. The less literary **Old Bull and Bush** in north London was the subject of a well known old music-hall song, while the 17th-century **Lamb and Flag** – one of central London's few surviving timber-framed buildings down an alleyway – was known as the Bucket of Blood because it was the venue for bare-knuckle prize fights. Some pubs have sinister associations; for example, some of Jack the Ripper's victims were found near the **Ten Bells**. Dick Turpin, the 18th-century highwayman, took refreshment at the **Spaniards Inn** in north London, and the **French House** in Soho was a meeting point for the French Resistance during World War II.

Pub Entertainment

Fringe theatre productions (see p338) are staged at the **King's Head**, the **Latchmere**, and at the Gate Theatre above the **Prince Albert**. Some pubs have live music: there is excellent modern jazz at the **Bull's Head** in Barnes and a wide variety of music styles at the popular **Spice of Life**. The diminutive **Golden Eagle**, on a winding backstreet in Marylebone, is a rare central London piano pub, with nostalgic singalongs a few nights a week.

Outdoor Drinking

Most pubs with outdoor seating tend to be located slightly outside the city centre. The **Freemasons Arms**, for example, near Hampstead Heath, has a very pleasant garden, as does the **Hamshire Hog** in Hammersmith. Some pubs enjoy riverside locations with

fine views, from the **Prospect of Whitby** in Wapping and the **Grapes** in Limehouse to the **White Cross** in Richmond. There is an array of bars and restaurants along the South Bank, including the **Queen Elizabeth Roof Garden and Bar** which overlooks the river.

Gastropubs

Emerging in the early 1990s, the gastropub offers patrons the chance to enjoy a drink or sit down to a good meal – or both. Among the first was **The Eagle**, which offers gourmet dishes from the open kitchen that occupies half of the bar. Some, like **The Lansdowne** in Primrose Hill and the **Wells Tavern** in Hampstead, have dedicated upstairs dining rooms as well as laid-back neighbourhood pub rooms where you can eat and drink.

TV foodie Roxy Beaujolais serves simple bistro dishes in a tiny, quirky old pub, the **Seven Stars**, near the Royal Courts of Justice. The **Cow** is known for its oysters and Guinness, while the **Chapel** and the **Fire Station** are popular with both drinkers and diners. The **Norfolk Arms** is a traditional-looking pub on the corner of Leigh Street and Sandwich Street, and serves a delicious selection of Mediterranean tapas. For an authentic British Sunday roast, head to **The Lady Ottoline** in Bloomsbury or **The Engineer**, just north of Regent's Park in Primrose Hill, an ideal retreat from Camden Market. The smart **Jugged Hare** in Clerkenwell has wonderful game dishes in season and has a set pre- and post-theatre menu handy for those taking in a show at the Barbican.

Bars

London's bar scene has been gradually transformed since the mid-1990s; up until then, the choice was limited to either hotel bars, wine bars or pubs. Propelled by a cocktail revival,

as well as the fact that eating and drinking out is now deeply ingrained in daily London life, more bars are opening all the time. Eagerly sought out by style-conscious connoisseurs, the latest watering holes are now as much a talking point as new restaurants.

Soho and Covent Garden are brimming with bars, but are frequently overcrowded, and don't offer the most authentic British drinking experience. To sample the hottest places, head either east or west. In the past decade, Shoreditch has been transformed from a no-go area to a popular evening destination, which is spilling into neighbouring Bethnal Green. One of the earliest pioneers, the basement lounge, no-frills **Electricity Showrooms** in Shoreditch, is still hopping. The chic and cosy **Whistling Shop** serves unconventional cocktails in a dimly lit setting. The hip **Book Club** is an eclectic space in which to eat, drink and enjoy events, from arts and science to crafts and DIY.

Across town in Notting Hill, sip good-value Scorpion Bowls and Zombies in the kitsch tiki-lounge ambience of **Trailer Happiness**. The area's stylish bars contrast with the down-to-earth pubs frequented by the market traders, such as the bustling **Portobello Star**.

If you want to stick to the centre of town, fashionable options include the underground **Cellar Door**, the **Lab Bar**, which serves excellent cocktails, especially Latin American drinks such as caipirinhas and mojitos, or **Aqua Spirit**, a bar with a rooftop terrace behind Oxford Circus. South of the river, the **Fridge Bar** in Brixton features DJs playing decent hip-hop and deep house with plenty of dancing and drinking, while somewhere like **Aqua Shard** offers cocktails along with breathtaking panoramic views of the city from the top of the iconic Shard.

Many restaurants feature excellent bars. **Smiths of Smithfield**, opposite the famous meat market, has a large, industrial-style café/bar at ground level, and a sleek cocktail and Champagne bar on the next floor, topped by two restaurants upstairs; nearby, **St John** has a stylish bar serving excellent wine and bar food. A drink in the bar is the less expensive way to experience the **Criterion** brasserie's sumptuous, gilded neo-Byzantine decor. Contemporary Chinese restaurant **Hakkasan** serves exotic cocktails flavoured with the likes of ginger and lemongrass in its glam Oriental-style bar.

Specialist Bars

Aficionados of particular spirits are well served in London. Scottish restaurant **Boisdale's** Macdonald Bar boasts 170 Scotch malt whiskies (and an impressive selection of Cuban cigars), while the **Rockwell**, an upscale bar in the Trafalgar Hotel, offers London's largest bourbon selection. **Salt** is a slick, modern whisky bar, and **Dirty Martini** in Covent Garden offers a range of bespoke cocktails – its happy hour includes half-price martinis. Mexican bar/restaurant **La Perla** is nearby and has an extensive range of tequilas for your shooting pleasure.

Chain Bars

Halfway between a bar and a pub, with large windows and white walls, London's chain bars may not be the most exciting places to drink, but they are a reliable option and some find them more inviting than dark pubs. Filled with chunky wood furniture, **All Bar One** is very popular, while the **Slug & Lettuce** chain features paintings on the walls and quiet rooms for talking. **Be At One** specializes in cocktails and even offers master classes. Branches of **Browns Bar & Brasserie** are often located in grand buildings, decorated with modern twists.

DIRECTORY

Soho & Piccadilly

Admiral Duncan

54 Old Compton St W1.
Map 13 A2.

Aqua Spirit

240 Regent St W1.
Map 12 F2.

Balans

60 Old Compton St W1.
Map 13 A2.

Brewdog

113 Bayham St NW1.
Map 12 F1.
(One of several branches.)

Compton's of Soho

51–53 Old Compton St W1.
Map 13 A2.

Criterion

224 Piccadilly W1.
Map 13 A3.

Dog & Duck

18 Bateman St W1.
Map 13 A2.

The French House

49 Dean St W1.
Map 13 A1.

Hakkasan

8 Hanway Place W1.
Map 13 A1.

Lab Bar

12 Old Compton St W1.
Map 13 A2.

Long Bar

50 Berners St W1T.
Map 12 F1.

Rupert Street

50 Rupert St W1.
Map 13 A2.

Spice of Life

6 Moor St W1.
Map 13 B2.

Mayfair & St James's

Be At One

20 Great Windmill St W1.
Map 13 A2.
(One of several branches.)

Browns Bar & Brasserie

47 Maddox St W1.
Map 12 F2.

Claridge's Bar

Brook St W1.
Map 12 E2.

Rivoli Bar

Ritz Hotel,
150 Piccadilly W1.
Map 12 F3.

Salt

82 Seymour St W2.
Map 11 C2.

Slug & Lettuce

19 Hanover St W1.
Map 12 F2.
(One of several branches.)

Trader Vic's

The London Hilton,
22 Park Lane W1.
Map 12 D3.

Covent Garden & Strand

American Bar

The Savoy, Strand WC2.
Map 13 C2.

Brasserie Max

Covent Garden Hotel,
10 Monmouth St WC2.
Map 13 B2.

Cellar Door

Zero Aldwych WC2.
Map 13 C2.

The Craft Beer Co.

168 High Holborn WC1.
Map 13 B1.
(One of several branches.)

Dirty Martini

11–12 Russell St WC2.
Map 13 C2.

KU Bar

30 Lisle St WC2.
Map 13 A2.

La Perla

28 Maiden Lane WC2.
Map 13 C2.

Lamb and Flag

33 Rose St WC2.
Map 13 B2.

Rockwell Bar

The Trafalgar, 2 Spring Gardens SW1.
Map 13 B3.

The Salisbury

90 St Martin's Lane WC2.
Map 13 B2.

Seven Stars

53–54 Carey St WC2.
Map 14 D1.

Bloomsbury & Holborn

The Lady Ottoline

11a Northampton St WC1.
Map 6 D5.

Norfolk Arms

28 Leigh St WC1.
Map 5 B4.

Princess Louise

208 High Holborn WC1.
Map 13 C1.

Scarves Bar

Rosewood London, High Holborn WC1. Map 13 C1.

The City & Clerkenwell

All Bar One

103 Cannon St EC4.
Map 15 A2.
(One of several branches.)

Hotel Bars

London's hotel bars continue to offer an elegant setting for classic and innovative cocktails, with the **Blue Bar** at the Berkeley Hotel and the **Long Bar** at the Sanderson Hotel prime examples. The **American Bar** at the Savoy, decorated in an Art Deco style, has a pianist, a terrific atmosphere and classic cocktails (try the signature White Lady or the Dry Martini, which the bar introduced to Britain), while another Jazz Age gem, the **Rivoli Bar** at The Ritz, has been resplendently restored. **Claridge's Bar** offers excellent Champagne cocktails (among other concoctions) in a glamorous,

contemporary-classic setting. **Trader Vic's** in the Park Lane Hilton provides an exotic tropical setting in which to enjoy an amazing range of rum cocktails.

Scarves Bar, in the Rosewood London, is a lively bar with a traditional soul, evoking the atmosphere of a London gentlemen's club with a roaring fire at one end and wooden bar running along the other. Warm, intimate and sophisticated, with plush furniture and handwoven rugs on a parquet floor, **Brasserie Max** in the Covent Garden Hotel is always buzzing and is very popular with theatre and film people.

Gay Bars

Old Compton Street, which is located in Soho, has a well-established gay scene. Tables spill out onto the pavements and there is a lively and friendly atmosphere. **Compton's of Soho**, a busy pub, is across the road from the gay bar and eatery **Balans** and close to the well-known gay pub the **Admiral Duncan**. **Rupert Street** is a stylishly low-key option for a relaxed drink, while **KU Bar** is a popular lesbian hang-out. Away from the West End, the **Royal Vauxhall Tavern** hosts Duckie's outrageous cabaret and DJs on Saturday nights.

DIRECTORY

Black Friar

174 Queen Victoria St EC4. **Map** 14 F2.

The Book Club

100 St Leonard St EC1. **Map** 7 C5.

The Eagle

159 Farringdon Rd EC1. **Map** 6 E4.

The Jugged Hare

49 Chiswell St EC1. **Map** 7 B5.

Smiths of Smithfield

67–77 Charterhouse St EC1. **Map** 6 F5.

St John

26 St John St EC1. **Map** 6 E2.

Ten Bells

84 Commercial St E1. **Map** 8 D5.

Viaduct Tavern

126 Newgate St EC1. **Map** 14 F1.

Whistling Shop

63 Worship St EC2. **Map** 7 C4.

Ye Olde Cheshire Cheese

145 Fleet St EC4. **Map** 14 E1.

Southwark & South Bank

Anchor

34 Park Street SE1. **Map** 15 A3.

Aqua Shard

The Shard, 31 St Thomas St SE1. **Map** 15 C3.

Fire Station

150 Waterloo Rd SE1. **Map** 14 E4.

George Inn

77 Borough High St SE1. **Map** 15 B4.

Queen Elizabeth Roof Garden Bar & Café

Southbank Centre, Belvedere Rd SE1. **Map** 14 D4.

Knightsbridge & Belgravia

Blue Bar

The Berkeley, Wilton Place SW1. **Map** 12 D5.

Boisdale

15 Eccleston St SW1. **Map** 20 E1.

Hampstead, Primrose Hill & Marylebone

The Chapel

48 Chapel St NW1. **Map** 3 B5.

The Engineer

65 Gloucester Ave NW1. **Map** 4 D1.

Freemasons Arms

32 Downshire Hill NW3. **Map** 1 C5.

Golden Eagle

59 Marylebone Lane W1. **Map** 12 D1.

The Lansdowne

90 Gloucester Ave NW1. **Map** 4 D1.

Old Bull and Bush

North End Way NW3. **Map** 1 A3.

Spaniards Inn

Spaniards Rd NW3. **Map** 1 A3.

The Wells Tavern

30 Well Walk NW3. **Map** 1 B4.

Bayswater & Notting Hill

The Cow

89 Westbourne Park Rd W11. **Map** 9 B1.

Portobello Star

171 Portobello Rd W11. **Map** 9 B2.

Prince Albert

11 Pembridge Rd W11. **Map** 9 C3.

Trailer

Happiness

177 Portobello Rd W11. **Map** 9 B2.

Further Afield

Bull's Head

373 Lonsdale Rd SW13.

City Barge

27 Strand-on-the-Green W4.

Electricity Showrooms

39A Hoxton Square N1. **Map** 7 C3.

Fridge Bar

1 Town Hill Parade SW2.

Grapes

76 Narrow St E14.

Hampshire Hog

227 King St W6.

King's Head

115 Upper St N1. **Map** 6 F1.

Latchmere

503 Battersea Park Rd SW11.

Prince Alfred

5a Formosa St W9.

Prospect of Whitby

57 Wapping Wall E1.

Royal Vauxhall Tavern

372 Kennington Lane SE11. **Map** 22 D3.

Trafalgar Tavern

Park Row SE10.

White Cross

Water Lane, Richmond-Upon-Thames.

SHOPS AND MARKETS

London offers a shopping experience like no other. From luxurious department stores such as Liberty, Harrods and Fortnum & Mason to the many bustling street markets, this is one of the most lively and exuberant shopping scenes in the world. No matter what you are looking for, there is a place to find it. At the top end, head to the designer shops of Knightsbridge with their stunning window displays, or indulge in the luxurious shopping experience provided by the stores on Regent Street, where ultramodern shops sit comfortably

alongside the old-fashioned emporia. Oxford Street boasts a plethora of stores showcasing the latest in high street fashion: Topshop's flagship branch is definitely worth a visit. For more bespoke finds, head to specialist boutiques, such as those found in Notting Hill and Covent Garden. Bargain-hunters will find a wealth of inexpensive goods in the thriving markets, which often exude a carnival atmosphere; pick up a vintage piece in Camden Market or browse for bric-a-brac or handmade jewellery on legendary Portobello Road.

When to Shop

In London, standard opening hours are from 10am to 5:30 or 6pm, Monday to Saturday. Sundays and public holidays see shorter trading hours, usually from 11am to 4pm or 12pm to 5pm. Many stores across the city, however, operate longer hours from Monday to Saturday; some in Oxford Street and Covent Garden, for example, open before 10am and close their doors at 9pm.

Street market opening times vary: some may operate daily whereas others will only set up once a week (*see pp335–7 for details of specific markets*).

How to Pay

Most stores and retail chains accept all major credit cards, including MasterCard, American Express, Diners Club, Japanese Credit Bureau and Visa. However, smaller

independent shops may take Visa and MasterCard only, and street market stalls often do not have card payment facilities, so it is always worth carrying cash or keeping an eye out for an

ATM. Most shops no longer accept payment by personal cheque, and their use is likely to be phased out completely by 2018. Some major stores accept Euros.



Bags from two of the most famous West End shops

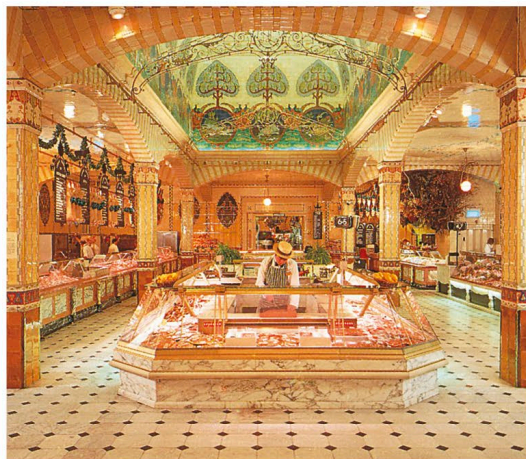
Rights and Services

On a defective purchase, you usually get a refund, if proof of purchase is produced and the goods are returned. This isn't always the case with sales goods, so check the store policy. Most large stores, and some small ones, will pack goods up for you and send them anywhere in the world.

VAT Exemption

VAT (Value Added Tax) is a sales tax of 20%, which is charged on virtually all goods sold in Britain. The exceptions are books, some food and children's clothes. VAT is mostly included in the advertised or marked price, although business suppliers, including some stationers and electrical goods shops, often charge separately.

Non-European Union visitors to Britain who stay no longer than three months may claim back VAT. If you plan to do so, carry your passport when shopping. You must complete a form in the store when you buy the goods and then give a copy to Customs when leaving the country. The tax refund may be returned by cheque or refunded to your credit card (though there may be a service charge for the latter). Most stores have a minimum purchase threshold (often £50 or £75). If you arrange to have your goods shipped directly home from the store, VAT should be deducted before you pay.



Harrods' elaborate Edwardian tiled food hall

Twice-Yearly Sales

The traditional sale season runs from Boxing Day (26 December) until February, and again from June to July, when shops slash their prices and sell off unwanted stock. The department stores have some of the best reductions and it is not uncommon for queues to form outside long before opening.

Shopping Centres and Department Stores

Shoppers flock to Oxford Street for favourite country names, while Londoners are perhaps more likely to head to Westfield London, in Shepherd's Bush, and Westfield

Stratford City, which house pretty much every store and a number of food outlets. The king of London's department stores is **Harrods**, with over 300 departments specializing in fashion, luxury items, beauty and homeware, and a staff of 5,000. The spectacular food hall decorated with Edwardian tiles sells fish, cheese, fruit and vegetables. **Harvey Nichols** boasts fashion and beauty collections, with emphasis placed on British, European and American designers and brands. The food hall, opened in 1992, is one of London's most stylish.

Selfridges, on Oxford Street, has a wide choice of labels, a great lingerie department and a section devoted to emerging designers. High-street concessions on the ground-floor cater to young women. It also has a food hall featuring global delicacies.

John Lewis in Oxford Street and its partner Peter Jones in Sloane Square are royal warrant holders, meaning they supply goods to members of the royal family. Both have an excellent selection of fashion,

homeware and haberdashery.

Liberty (see p113), housed in an impressive mock-Tudor building near Carnaby Street, is renowned for its floral and graphic prints, which were first developed in the late 19th century. **Fortnum & Mason** began as a grocery store and, though it gradually evolved into a department store with classic fashion and luxury items, it continues to boast an impressive food section. Continuously popular are Fortnum's tins of biscuits and tea, and its luxury picnic hampers.

For affordable fashion, head to high-street favourite **Debenhams**, which champions British designers at reasonable

prices. As other department stores, it also has beauty and homeware collections. Alternatively, **Marks & Spencer (M&S)** is a British favourite. It has come a long way since 1882, when the Russian emigré Michael Marks had a single stall in Leeds' Kirkgate market with the sign, "Don't ask the price – it's a penny!" M&S now has more than 800 stores worldwide to its

name and most stock is "own label". The food department has a great range and also stocks locally-sourced produce. The Oxford Street branches at the Pantheon (near Oxford Circus) and Marble Arch are best for clothes and household goods.

Markets

As well as offering a wealth of delights for the discerning bargain hunter, London's thriving markets also provide an atmospheric glimpse into the past, with many in historic settings and dating back to medieval times.

Soak up the rich colours, aromas and flavours at specialist



Doorman at Fortnum & Mason

food stalls, browse quaint antique shops for curios or pick up a retro bargain at one of the many vintage clothes outlets. Early risers have a better chance of finding a bargain (see also pp335–7).

DIRECTORY

Department Stores

Debenhams

334–348 Oxford St W1.

Map 12 E2. Tel 0844 561 6161.

Fortnum & Mason

181 Piccadilly W1.

Map 12 F3. Tel 020 7734 8040.

Harrods

87–135 Brompton Rd SW1.

Map 11 C5. Tel 020 7730 1234.

Harvey Nichols

109–125 Knightsbridge SW1.

Map 11 C5. Tel 020 7235 5000.

John Lewis

300 Oxford St W1.

Map 12 E1. Tel 020 7629 7711.

Liberty

210–220 Regent St W1.

Map 12 F2. Tel 020 7734 1234.

Marks and Spencer (M&S)

458 Oxford St W1C 1AP.

Map 12 F1. Tel 020 7935 7954.

Selfridges

400 Oxford St W1.

Map 12 D2. Tel 0870 837 7377.

Shopping Centres

Westfield London

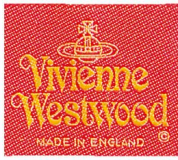
Ariel Way, Shepherd's Bush W12 7GF.

Tel 020 3371 2300.

Westfield Stratford City

Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park, Montfichet Rd E20 1EJ.

Tel 020 8221 7300.



Some well-known names in British clothes design

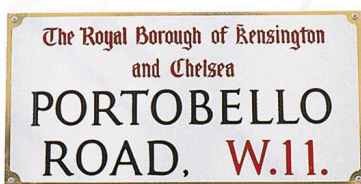
London's Best: Shopping Streets and Markets

London's best shopping areas range from the elegance of Knightsbridge, where porcelain, jewellery and couture fashion come at the highest prices, to colourful markets such as Brick Lane, Spitalfields and Portobello. Meccas for those who enjoy searching for a bargain, London's markets also reflect the vibrant street life engendered by its enterprising multicultural community. The city is fertile ground for specialist shoppers: there are streets crammed with antique shops, antiquarian booksellers and art galleries. Turn to pages 320–35 for more detail on shops, grouped according to category.



Kensington Church Street

Home to over 60 antique dealers and one of the largest selections of art and antiques in London (see p219).



Portobello Road Market

Over 1,000 stalls sell *objets d'art*, jewellery, medals, paintings and silverware – plus fresh fruit and vegetables (see p337).

0 kilometres
0 miles

1
0.5



Knightsbridge

Exclusive designer clothing is on sale here, at Harrods as well as smaller stores (see p213).



King's Road

A centre for avant-garde fashion in the 1960s and 1970s, the street is now home to chain stores and designer shops. This area also has upmarket antique shops (see p200).





London's West End Shops

Oxford Street is sometimes called London's High Street and many of the shops that line it are branches of national or international chains. The big department stores such as Selfridges and John Lewis line this street, as do smaller shops selling clothes and tourist souvenirs. On Regent Street, Piccadilly and Bond Street, prices rise and shoppers search for specialized purchases among the designer clothes shops, jewellers and art and antique dealers, while Carnaby Street has a more eclectic vibe.



Brick Lane Market

In this East End street, everything from old books to new trainers is on sale (see p335).



Columbia Road Flower Market

Lined with independent art and antique shops, Columbia Road hosts a wonderful flower market every Sunday (see p336).



Charing Cross Road

Shops selling old and new books line this street and the nearby Cecil Court (see p326).

Covent Garden and Neal Street

Street entertainers perform in this lively and historic market. The specialist shops of Neal Street are nearby (see p119).



Clothes

Traditional British tailoring, international haute couture, vintage fashion, the latest high street trends: the fashion capital of the UK has it all. London's clothing stores, much like its restaurants, reflect the city's diverse styles and culture, and there really is something to suit every taste. Visit the stylish stores of British designers such as Vivienne Westwood and Stella McCartney or wander through the hugely popular high-street chains, which have perfected the art of mimicking catwalk trends – and offering them at a reasonable price. For unique fashion, London's boutiques are second to none and there is always a bargain to be found at vintage stores and market stalls.

Traditional Clothing

British tailoring and fabrics are world-renowned for their high quality. In Savile Row, you can follow in the sartorial footsteps of Winston Churchill and the Duke of Windsor, among other dapper luminaries, and have a suit made to measure or buy one off the peg. Established in 1806, **Henry Poole** was the first tailor in the Row. At **H Huntsman & Sons**, you can choose from three options – bespoke, custom-made and ready-to-wear. The bespoke suits are painstakingly hand-stitched on the premises, which partly explains the exorbitant £3,000-plus price tag. In addition to making suits to order, **Gieves & Hawkes** has two ready-to-wear lines.

Competing with the distinguished and traditional line-up are fashion-conscious tailors, known for modern cuts and vibrant fabrics, including **Ozward Boateng** and **Richard James**.

Jermyn Street is famous for smart shirts. At venerable shops such as **Turnbull & Asser** or the family-run **Harvie & Hudson**, you can either have them custom-made or choose the less expensive standard-sized options. Many manufacturers, including the popular shirt chain **Thomas Pink**, also sell a variety of classic women's blouses.

Several bastions of classic British style have completely reinvented themselves as fashion labels. **Burberry** is the best

example of this, although it still does a brisk trade in its famous trenchcoats, checked clothing (for children too) and distinctive accessories. **Daks** is also a good choice for classic raincoats, suits and accessories for both sexes, giving traditional British styles a modern twist. **Alfred Dunhill** specializes in immaculate, if

expensive, menswear and accessories, while at the **Crombie** outlet, you can buy the famous fitted overcoat that was given the company name. The menswear emporium **Hackett** caters to a younger, yet still conservative, clientele. Designers **Margaret Howell** and **Nicole Farhi** create updated versions of relaxed British country garments for men and women, such as knitwear, tweeds and sheepskin coats. You can still find a more traditional, smart country look in the Regent Street, Piccadilly or Knightsbridge areas; the classic Barbour wax jacket, for example, can be found at Harrods and Liberty (see p317). **Cordings**, established 1839, is good for country-gent/-lady gear, such as check shirts, moleskin trousers and Covert coats.

While **Liberty** (see p317) now has a good selection of

Size Chart

For Australian sizes follow British and American convention

Children's clothing

British	2–3	4–5	6–7	8–9	10–11	12	14	14+ (years)
American	2–3	4–5	6–6X	7–8	10–12	14	16 (size)	
Continental	2–3	4–5	6–7	8–9	10–11	12	14	14+ (years)

Children's shoes

British	7½	8	9	10	11	12	13	1	2
American	7½	8½	9½	10½	11½	12½	13½	1½	2½
Continental	24	25½	27	28	29	30	32	33	34

Women's dresses, coats and skirts

British	6	8	10	12	14	16	18	20
American	4	6	8	10	12	14	16	18
Continental	32	34	36	38	40	42	44	46

Women's blouses and sweaters

British	30	32	34	36	38	40	42
American	6	8	10	12	14	16	18
Continental	34	36	38	40	42	44	46

Women's shoes

British	3	4	5	6	7	8
American	5	6	7	8	9	10
Continental	36	37	38	39	40	41

Men's suits

British	34	36	38	40	42	44	46	48
American	34	36	38	40	42	44	46	48
Continental	44	46	48	50	52	54	56	58

Men's shirts

British	14	15	15½	16	16½	17	17½	18
American	14	15	15½	16	16½	17	17½	18
Continental	36	38	39	41	42	43	44	45

Men's shoes

British	7	7½	8	9	10	11	12
American	7½	8	8½	9½	10½	11	11½
Continental	40	41	42	43	44	45	46

contemporary designers, it still uses its patterned prints to make blouses and stylish men's shirts, as well as scarves and ties. Floral print dresses and feminine blouses can be found at **Laura Ashley**, although the store has introduced more contemporary looks as well.

Modern Design and Fashion

London designers are known for their eclectic, irreverent style. Grand dames **Vivienne Westwood** and Zandra Rhodes have been on the scene since the 1970s – the latter opened the **Fashion and Textile Museum** in southeast London in 2003. It features 3,000 of her own garments as well as examples by other influential fashion figures. Many British designers of international stature have their flagship stores in the capital, including **Paul Smith** and **Stella McCartney**, both of whom showcase their collections in fabulous townhouses, and the late **Alexander McQueen**, with an upscale showcase in Bond Street. Young home-grown talent such as Alice Temperley, whose feminine frocks are beloved by the London party set, Eley Kishimoto, characterized by bold prints, and avant-garde design duo Boudicca, can be found in the capital's boutiques.

Selfridges (see p317) also has an impressive selection of emerging designers. **Dover Street Market**, conceived by Comme des Garçons' Rei Kawakubo, revives the age-old tradition of the covered clothes market, but in a much more upmarket milieu. Its four minimalist floors showcase a varied array of goods, from glitzy shoes by king of the platform Terry de Havilland to cool art books and vintage and contemporary designer clothes.

If you want to take home a bit of British design, but can't afford the high prices, it's worth visiting **Debenhams** (see p317), which has harnessed the talents of numerous leading designers,

including Jasper Conran, Matthew Williamson, Julien Macdonald and Ben De Lisi, to create cheaper collections exclusive to the department store. Young designers often start out with a stall on Portobello Road or Old Spitalfields Market (see p337), both good sources of interesting clothing. There are also a few good designer sale shops:

Paul Smith Sale Shop is located in central London, while those looking for **Burberry** bargains at its factory outlet will have to travel a bit further afield to the East End. For those willing to travel further, **Bicester Village** is an excellent discount shopping centre with mid- to high-end stores.

Boutiques

London is home to an extensive variety of boutiques – hot new shops crop up and, it must be said, close down with dizzying regularity. The mother of them all is **Browns**. Established in the 1970s, it occupies several storefronts in South Molton Street and stocks a wide selection of international labels. But the highest concentration of boutiques is in Notting Hill, near the intersection of Westbourne Grove and Ledbury Road. Because of the numerous cafés in the area, and the relaxed, affluent atmosphere away from the crowded West End shopping districts, it's an extremely pleasant place to browse.

JW Beeton embodies quirky British style, while **Matches**, which also has outposts in Richmond and Wimbledon, dominates Ledbury Road with three separate shops – one for both sexes, another just for women, plus one specializing in frocks by Diane von Furstenberg. Like Browns in the West End, Matches stocks international designer labels, including Balenciaga, Fendi and Chloé, interspersed with a variety of British talent such as Giles Deacon, Bella Freud and Jade Jagger. **Question Air** and **Feathers** also stock

designer labels, while **Aimé** specializes in French clothes and homewares. A short walk away in a quiet residential street, celebrity favourite **The Cross** is a delightfully understated little shop, packed with women's fashion, cute children's clothes and toys, toiletries and unusual accessories. **The Dispensary** in Kensington Park Road is much loved by locals for its Notting Hill style. Primrose Hill, Islington, Soho and the streets radiating off Seven Dials near Covent Garden are also dotted with independent fashion shops. **Diverse**, in Tufnell Park, caters for both sexes with a great selection of iconic labels and collections from new designers.

Chain Stores and Street Fashion

In Britain, cutting-edge styles are no longer, as they once were, the exclusive preserve of the rich. "High-street" stores have never been better, both in terms of quality and design. Moreover, the cheaper versions of all the latest styles appear in the shops, almost as soon as they have been sashayed down the catwalk. **Oasis** and **Topshop** have both won celebrity fans for their up-to-the-minute, young womenswear. The latter, which proudly claims to be "the world's largest fashion store", is a complete mine of inexpensive clothes and beautiful accessories; there is even an in-store "boutique" with the latest collections by hip designers, and a vintage section as well.

The upmarket chains **Jigsaw**, **Karen Millen** and **Whistles** are more expensive with the emphasis on beautiful fabrics and shapes which, while stylish, don't slavishly copy the catwalk. **Jigsaw Junior**, which is available in larger branches, offers delectable mini versions of its designs for girls. **Reiss** and **Ted Baker** are popular with trend-conscious young men, though they also have good women's collections.

More unique shops can be found in and around Newburgh Street, behind Carnaby Street.

Vintage Fashion

The city offers a vast hunting ground for aficionados of vintage style, ranging from market stalls to exclusive shops showcasing immaculately preserved designerwear. Head east for funky emporia such as **Rokit**, which also has branches in Camden and Covent Garden, in addition to a huge warehouse, **Beyond Retro**. Grays Antique Market (see p336) covers all bases with the award-winning Vintage Modes, spanning the styles of the past century, as well as fashion-conscious Advintage, run by a former department-store personal shopper. Glamorous evening gowns and pin-up lingerie for the girls, flashy Hawaiian shirts and novelty bar accessories for the guys, can be found at fashionistas' favourite **Rellik** in Kensington. Vintage and antique dealers often have beautiful pieces for sale in Alfie's Antique Market.

For mint-condition 1930s bias-cut silk slips and 1920s flapper dresses, head to **Annie's** in Camden Passage. **Absolute Vintage's** flagship store, on Hanbury Street, has great vintage items. Be warned, neither of these shops is cheap.

Knitwear

Traditional British knitwear is still hugely popular, from Fair Isle jumpers to Aran knits. The best places for these are in Piccadilly, Regent Street and Knightsbridge. Heritage label **Pringle of Scotland** has been revitalized with more contemporary shapes and vivid colours. Luxurious casual labels **Joseph** and **The White Company** feature modern chunky knits, while **John Smedley** concentrates on simple designs in fine-gauge wool and sea island cotton. For cashmere, **N. Peal**, which has both men's and women's shops at opposite ends of the

Burlington Arcade, has a great selection of luxury jumpers, cardigans and accessories. While the popular chain **Brora** offers an affordable range of contemporary, Scottish cashmere for the entire family, **Marilyn Moore** designs hip interpretations of classic knitwear.

Underwear and Lingerie

Marks & Spencer (see p317) is the most popular source of reasonably priced basics; it now has several fashionable lingerie lines as well. **Agent Provocateur**, founded by designer Vivienne Westwood's son and his wife, oozes retro pin-up glamour, from the slightly kinky pink uniforms worn by the staff to its nostalgically seductive bra sets. **Tallulah Lingerie** sells wispy negligees, hand-made silk undergarments and sumptuous bridal lingerie. For top quality bras head to **Rigby and Peller**. This British institution holds a royal warrant and has experts on hand to help you find the perfect lingerie for your shape.

Children's Clothes

You can get traditional hand-smocked dresses and romper suits from Liberty, **Caramel Baby & Child** and **Rachel Riley**, which stock smocks, gowns and tweed coats. Burberry's New Bond Street store has a children's section showcasing adorable mini macs, kilts and other items featuring the famous check. **Trotters** offers everything from shoes and clothes to haircuts, while the **Little White Company** makes pretty dresses and smart sweaters, amongst others, in pure cotton and wool. They also sell delightful bedding and sleepwear. **JoJo Maman Bébé** caters for new-borns to six year olds with cute corduroy dresses, skirts and trousers, and nautical-inspired tops and bottoms.

Shoes

Some of the most famous names in the footwear industry

are based in Britain. If you have a few thousand pounds to spare, you can have a pair custom-made by the royal family's shoemaker, **John Lobb**. Ready-made, traditional brogues and Oxfords are the mainstay of **Church's Shoes**, while **Oliver Sweeney** gives classics a contemporary edge. For traditional, bench-made shoes at bargain prices, it's worth travelling further afield to Battersea and splurging at the **Shipton & Heneage** outlet. It offers an exceptionally wide range of Oxfords, Derbys, loafers and boots crafted in the same Northamptonshire factories as some of the most celebrated names, for considerably lower prices; the out-of-the-way location keeps costs down.

Fans of the Fab Four can step into their idols' shoes: **Anello & Davide** designed the original Beatle Boot and still sells bespoke shoes in a range of materials. **The British Boot Company** in Camden has a wide range of Dr Martens, which were originally designed as hard-wearing work boots but soon adopted by fans of rock 'n' roll and punk music.

Jimmy Choo and **Manolo Blahnik**, two celebrated shoe designers, remain popular with women worldwide, and both have stores in central London.

French Soles produces stunning, quality ballet flats and pumps in numerous colours and materials, while **Emma Hope** in Sloane Square is best known for simple, timeless shapes embellished with embroidery or beadwork. **Gina**, also in Sloane Square, produces luxury footwear for women.

Less expensive, yet good quality designs can be found on the high street in **Hobbs** or **Clarks**, while **Aldo**, **Office** and **Schuh** focus on styles for a younger crowd.

The Natural Shoe Store, a Covent Garden institution of more than 30 years' standing, sells what its name says – shoes crafted from natural products. Vegan shoes and Birkenstocks are among its top sellers.

DIRECTORY

Traditional Clothing

Burberry

21–23 New Bond St W1.
Map 12 F2.
Tel 020 7980 8425.

Cordings

19–20 Piccadilly W1.
Map 13 A3.
Tel 020 7734 0830.

Crombie

48 Conduit St W1.
Map 12 F2.
Tel 020 7434 2886.
(One of two branches.)

Daks

10 Old Bond St W1.
Map 12 F3.
Tel 020 7409 4040.

Alfred Dunhill

48 Jermyn St W1.
Map 12 F3.
Tel 020 7290 8609.

Gieves & Hawkes

1 Savile Row W1.
Map 12 E3.
Tel 020 7432 6403.

H Huntsman & Sons

11 Savile Row W1.
Map 12 F3.
Tel 020 7734 7441.

Hackett

87 Jermyn St SW1.
Map 13 A3.
Tel 020 7930 1300.
(One of several branches.)

Harvie & Hudson

96–97 Jermyn St SW1.
Map 12 F3.
Tel 020 7839 3578.
(One of three branches.)

Henry Poole & Co

15 Savile Row W1.
Map 12 F3.
Tel 020 7734 5985

Laura Ashley

House of Fraser, 318 Oxford St W1.
Map 12 F1.
Tel 0344 800 3752.
(One of several branches.)

Liberty

Regent St W1.
Map 12 F2.
Tel 020 7734 1234.

Margaret Howell

34 Wigmore St W1.
Map 12 E1.
Tel 020 7009 9009.

Nicole Farhi

25 Conduit St W1.
Map 10 F2.
Tel 020 7499 8368.
(One of several branches.)

Ozwald Boateng

30 Savile Row W1.
Map 12 F3.
Tel 020 7440 5237.

Richard James

29 Savile Row W1.
Map 12 F2.
Tel 020 7434 0171.

Thomas Pink

85 Jermyn St SW1.
Map 12 F3.
Tel 020 7930 6364.
(One of several branches.)

Turnbull & Asser

71–72 Jermyn St SW1.
Map 12 F3.
Tel 020 7808 3000.

Modern Design and Fashion

Alexander McQueen

4–5 Old Bond St W1.
Map 12 F3.
Tel 020 7355 0088.

Bicester Village

50 Pingle Drive, Bicester, Oxfordshire OX26 6WD.
Tel 1869 366266.

Burberry Factory Shop

29–31 Chatham Place E9.
Tel 020 8328 4287.

Debenhams

334–348 Oxford St W1.
Map 12 E2.
Tel 08445 616 161.

Dover Street Market

17–18 Dover Street W1.
Map 12 F3.
Tel 020 7518 0680.

Fashion and Textile Museum

83 Bermondsey St SE1.
Map 15 C4.
Tel 020 7407 8664.

Paul Smith

Westbourne House, 120 & 122 Kensington Park Rd W11. **Map** 9 B2.
Tel 020 7727 3553.
(One of several branches.)

Paul Smith

Sale Shop
 23 Avery Row W1.
Map 12 E2.
Tel 020 7493 1287.

Selfridges

400 Oxford St W1.
Map 12 D2.
Tel 0870 837 7377.

Stella McCartney

30 Bruton St W1.
Map 12 E3.
Tel 020 7518 3100.

Vivienne Westwood

44 Conduit St W1.
Map 12 F2.
Tel 020 7439 1109.

Boutiques

Aimé

32 Ledbury Rd W11.
Map 9 C2.
Tel 020 7221 7070.

Browns

23–27 South Molton St W1. **Map** 12 E2.
Tel 020 7514 0016.

The Cross

141 Portland Rd W11.
Map 9 A3.
Tel 020 7727 6760.

The Dispensary

200 Kensington Park Rd W11. **Map** 9 B2.
Tel 020 7727 8797.

Diverse

148 Fortress Rd, NW5.
Map 6 F1.
Tel 020 7813 7425.

Feathers

176 Westbourne Grove W11. **Map** 9 C2.
Tel 020 7243 8800.

JW Beeton

48–50 Ledbury Road W11.
Map 9 C2.
Tel 020 7229 8874.

Matches

60–64 Ledbury Rd W11.
Map 9 C2.
Tel 020 7221 0255.

Question Air

28 Rosslyn Hill NW3.
Map 1 C5.
Tel 020 7435 9921.
(One of several branches.)

Chain Stores and Street Fashion

Hobbs

84–88 King's Rd SW3.
Map 19 C2.
Tel 020 7581 2914.
(One of several branches.)

Jigsaw

6 Duke of York Sq, Kings Rd SW3. **Map** 19 C2.
Tel 020 7730 4404.
(One of several branches.)

Karen Millen

247 Regent St W1.
Map 12 F1.
Tel 020 7629 1901.
(One of several branches.)

Oasis

12–14 Argyll St W1.
Map 12 F2.
Tel 020 7434 1799.
(One of several branches.)

Reiss

Kent House, 14–17 Market Place W1.
Map 12 F1.
Tel 020 7637 9112.
(One of several branches.)

DIRECTORY

Ted Baker

9–10 Floral St WC2.
Map 13 C2.
Tel 020 7836 7808.
(One of several branches.)

Topshop

Oxford Circus W1.
Map 12 F1.
Tel 0844 848 7487.
(One of several branches.)

Whistles

12–14 St Christopher's Pl W1. **Map** 12 D1.
Tel 020 7487 4484.
(One of several branches.)

Vintage Fashion

Absolute Vintage

15 Hanbury St E1.
Map 8 E5.
Tel 020 7247 3883.

Annie's

12 Camden Passage N1.
Map 6 F1.
Tel 020 7359 0796.

Beyond Retro

110–112 Cheshire St E2.
Map 8 E4.
Tel 020 7613 3636.

Rellik

8 Golborne Gardens W10.
Tel 020 8962 0089.

Rokit

101 & 107 Brick Lane E1.
Map 8 E4.
Tel 020 7375 3864.
(One of three branches.)

Knitwear

Brora

81 Marylebone High St W1.
Map 4 D5.
Tel 020 7224 5040.
(One of several branches.)

John Smedley

24 Brook St W1.
Map 12 E2.
Tel 020 7495 2222.

Joseph

299 Fulham Rd SW10.
Map 18 F3.
Tel 020 7352 6776.
(One of several branches.)

Marilyn Moore

7 Elgin Crescent W11.
Map 9 B2.
Tel 020 7727 5577.

N. Peal

Burlington Arcade,
 Piccadilly, W1.
Map 12 F3.
Tel 020 7499 6485.

Pringle of Scotland

94 Mount St W1.
Map 12 D3.
Tel 020 3011 0031.

The White Company

Unit 5, Slingsby Pl, St
 Martin's Courtyard WC2.
Map 13 B2.
Tel 020 8166 0200.

Underwear and Lingerie

Agent Provocateur

6 Broadwick St W1.
Map 13 A2.
Tel 020 7439 0229.
(One of several branches.)

Rigby & Peller

22A Conduit St W1.
Map 12 F2.
Tel 020 7491 2200.

Tallulah Lingerie

65 Cross St, Islington N1.
Map 6 F1.
Tel 020 7704 0066.

Children's Clothes

Caramel Baby & Child

4 Denman Place W1.
Map 13 A2.
Tel 020 7287 2622.
(One of several branches.)

JoJo Maman Bébé

12 Cale St SW3.
Map 19 B3.
Tel 020 7589 9593.
(One of several branches.)

Little White Company

90 Marylebone High St W1.
Map 4D5.
Tel 020 7486 7550.

Rachel Riley

82 Marylebone High St W1.
Map 4 D5.
Tel 020 7935 7007.

Trotters

34 King's Rd SW3.
Map 19 C2.
Tel 020 7259 9620.

Shoes

Aldo

3–7 Neal St WC2.
Map 13 B1.
Tel 020 7836 7692.
(One of several branches.)

Anello & Davide

15 St Alban's Grove W8.
Map 10 E5.
Tel 020 7938 2255.

The British Boot Company

5 Kentish Town Rd NW1.
Map 4 F1.
Tel 020 7485 8505.

Church's Shoes

108–10 Jermyn St SW1.
Map 12 F3.
Tel 020 7930 8210.

Clarks

119 Oxford St W1.
Map 13 A1.
Tel 020 7437 2593.
(One of several branches.)

Emma Hope

53 Sloane Sq SW1.
Map 19 C2.
Tel 020 7259 9566.
(One of two branches.)

French Soles

6 Ellis St SW1.
Map 19 C2.
Tel 020 7730 3771.

Gina

189 Sloane St SW1.
Map 19 C1.
Tel 020 7235 2932.

Hobbs

124 Long Acre WC2.
Map 13 B2.
Tel 020 7836 0625.
(One of several branches.)

Jimmy Choo

27 New Bond St W1.
Map 12 F2.
Tel 020 7493 5858.

John Lobb

88 Jermyn St SW1.
Map 12 F3.
Tel 020 7930 8089.

Manolo Blahnik

49–51 Old Church St,
 Kings Road SW3.
Map 19 A4.
Tel 020 7352 8622.

Office

57 Neal St WC2.
Map 13 B1.
Tel 020 7379 1896.
(One of several branches.)

Oliver Sweeney

5 Conduit St W1.
Map 12 F2.
Tel 020 7491 9126.

Schuh

200 Oxford St W1.
Map 13 A1.
Tel 020 3355 9914.
(One of several branches.)

Shipton & Heneage

117 Queenstown Rd SW8.
Map 20 E5.
Tel 020 7738 8484.

The Natural Shoe Store

70 Neal St WC2.
Map 13 B1.
Tel 020 7240 2783.

Specialist Shops

London may be famed for grand department stores such as Harrods, but there are many specialist shops which should also figure on the visitor's itinerary. Some have expertise built up over a century or more, while others are new and fashionable, or cater to the whims of eccentric collectors. Whether you are looking for traditional British products and food, high-tech gadgets, or the latest trends in music, London has a wide range of stores to suit everyone's tastes.

Food

Britain's reputation for terrible food is proving hard to shake off but, in reality, the national cuisine has improved immeasurably, and London has become one of the culinary capitals of the world. There is a huge interest in local and organic produce, as well as delicacies imported from all over Europe. This is reflected in the growing number of food markets, the biggest being Borough Market (see p335). Specialities that are well worth sampling include a variety of chocolates, biscuits, preserves, cheeses and teas (see pp292–3).

The food halls of Fortnum & Mason, Harrods and Harvey Nichols (see p317) are good outlets for all of these, but it's also worth visiting the gastronomic gems dotted around town. Of these, **A Gold**, housed in an atmospheric old milliner's shop near Spitalfields Market, specializes in traditional foods from across Britain. Its goods, including cheeses, sausages, jams, baked goods, English wines and mead, are advertised on chalkboards. **Paxton & Whitfield**, a delightful shop dating from 1797, stocks more than 300 cheeses, including baby Stiltons and Cheshire truckles, along with pork pies, biscuits, oils and preserves.

The shelves of tiny **Neal's Yard Dairy** groan with huge British farmhouse cheeses. **Paul Rothe & Son** is a family-run deli that has hardly changed since it opened more than a century ago. Besides selling "British and foreign provisions", such as preserves, old-fashioned sweets and biscuits,

the white-coated proprietors also serve morning toast and sandwiches on proper china. For traditional English chocolates, such as violet or rose creams and after-dinner mints in beautiful gift boxes, head for **Charbonnel et Walker** in Royal Arcade off Bond Street. It has been in business for more than 100 years, and holds royal warrants. True chocoholics will be in their element at **Hotel Chocolat's** shop/café, with a vast selection to choose from. Also committed to "real" chocolate, **Rococo** is well-known for its unique blue-and-white Victorian-style packaging.

Drinks

Tea, the most British of drinks, comes in all kinds of flavours. Fortnum & Mason's traditional teas come in appealingly refined gift selections. **The Tea House** is packed with myriad varieties from classic to creative (such as "summer pudding"), colourful souvenir tins and teapots. **Postcard Teas** is another specialist retailer of high-quality teas.

The quaint 19th-century **Algerian Coffee Stores** manages to pack more than 140 varieties of coffee and 200 teas into its small shop. Family business **HR Higgins** sells fine coffees and teas from around the world. Attractive gift sets are available and you can try before you buy in the coffee room downstairs.

Whisky lovers should head to **The Vintage House**, which displays the widest array of single malts in England, including some very old bottles. **Berry Bros & Rudd**

is one of the oldest wine merchants in the world, still trading in wines, fortified wines and spirits from its ancient, panelled shop in St James's. In contrast, the **Wine Rooms**, with locations in both Fulham and Kensington, offer excellent wine tastings and have a vast selection of wines to try and buy in a sleek and modern setting.

One-Offs

Many of London's quirky old specialist shops have closed due to rising rents, but there are still some fascinating anachronisms, as well as interesting newcomers, to be found across the city. A large number of specialist traders operate from stalls in antiques markets such as Alfie's and Portobello Road (see p337), where you can find everything from old military medals to commemorative china and vintage luggage. A notable survivor is **James Smith & Sons**, the largest and oldest umbrella shop in Europe, which first opened for business in 1830. Behind its mahogany and glass-panelled façade lies an array of high-quality umbrellas and walking sticks, including the once ubiquitous city gent broly.

Halcyon Days specializes in little enamelled copper boxes, the delightful products of a revived 18th-century English craft. Top-quality wooden chess sets and boards, including an ornamental design featuring Sherlock Holmes characters, are available at **Chess & Bridge Ltd. VV Rouleaux** is festooned with every imaginable type of ribbon and flamboyant trimming.

The young and young at heart will enjoy **Honeyjam**, which sells traditional toys and games for all ages. **Benjamin Pollock's Toyshop** does a nifty line in miniature self-assembly paper theatres, as well as other traditional toys and antique teddies. **The Old Cinema** in Chiswick specializes in quirky vintage furniture.

At **The Bead Shop** in Covent Garden, you will find two floors stocked with thousands of items from Swarovski crystals to glass, pewter and sterling silver beads.

Fans of *Doctor Who* and all things science fiction will love **ScifiCollector** on the Strand. It stocks a huge range of toys and merchandise, including items inspired by the time-travelling Time Lord, *Red Dwarf* and *Star Trek*. There is also a section for first day covers, stamp sheets and signed items. Special events held at the store include appearances by science fiction authors, artists and actors.

Books and Magazines

Though bookshops no longer thrive as they used to, plenty can still be found across the capital. Once a bookshop haven, Charing Cross Road (see p112) has a few stalwarts including **Quinto & Francis Edwards**, which has a good selection covering travel, natural history, naval and military history, and art and literature, and **Any Amount of Books**, a shop with an eclectic mix of secondhand fiction and non-fiction.

Charing Cross Road is also home to the flagship branch of **Foyles**. Spread across four floors, this impressive store stocks over 200,000 different titles. There is also a jazz shop and café (see below), an art gallery and real live piranhas in the children's department. **Grant & Cutler**, within the store, is an unrivalled source of foreign books and DVDs. Over in Piccadilly, the flagship store of **Waterstones** (which has branches across the city) rivals Foyles for its vast collection. With over eight miles of shelving space, it is Europe's largest bookshop.

Just off Charing Cross Road is Cecil Court (see p105), a charming pedestrian alleyway lined with dealers specializing in everything from illustrated children's books to modern first editions. **Watkins**

Books focuses on mind, body and soul, while **Marchpane** dedicates itself to Lewis Carroll and his *Alice in Wonderland*, as well as other British children's classics – keep an eye out for signed copies of the *Harry Potter* books. **Storey's Ltd** is an antiquarian bookshop specializing in engraved prints and maps.

London's oldest bookshop is **Hatchards** in Piccadilly. Operating since 1797, this historic store is a holder of three royal warrants. It stocks new fiction and non-fiction, and often hosts author signings. The beautiful Edwardian **Daunt Books** in Marylebone has a soaring, galleried back room devoted entirely to travel titles and, unusually, related fiction organized by country. It is worth a visit for its stunning interior alone.

Globe trotters should head to **Stanfords** (see p116) in Long Acre, which stocks guides to nearly every part of the world. It also has a great range of maps. More travel books can be found at the **Notting Hill Bookshop**, made famous by the Hugh Grant and Julia Roberts film. Also in Notting Hill is **Books for Cooks**, complete with café and test kitchen (see p281).

Magma, a short walk from Charing Cross Road, is excellent for design subjects and avant-garde illustrated books. Graphic novels and American and European comics are the speciality at **Gosh!** and **Orbital Comics**, while fantasy and science fiction abound at the world-famous **Forbidden Planet**. Stocking all of the latest comic and graphic novels, this megastore also offers a huge range of merchandise and hosts signings with leading science fiction and fantasy authors. For gay writing, visit the pioneering **Gay's The Word**, near Russell Square. The best selection of books on movies is found at the **Cinema Store**.

The European Bookshop in Kensington stocks foreign

language literature and study materials. If you are looking for newspapers and magazines from abroad, **Capital News-agents** stocks, among others, American, Italian, French, Spanish and Middle Eastern publications. **Gray's Inn News** is also worth a visit for European titles. For those with a keen interest in vintage magazines, there are more than 200,000 in the basement of **Vintage Magazines** in Soho, dating from the early 1900s all the way through to the present day. There are also all manner of movie and popular culture memorabilia and gifts on the ground floor of the shop.

CDs and Records

As one of the world's greatest centres of recorded music, London has an excellent selection of record shops catering to fans of all musical styles. **Fopp** sells a wide range of music from pop to punk to easy listening, and their Covent Garden branch stocks a comprehensive range.

Small specialist shops tend to cater to the more esoteric tastes. **Rough Trade** was at the centre of the emerging punk scene and still sniffs out interesting indie talent today. It has a live music venue in east London. For jazz, check out **Ray's Jazz**, which is now housed in Foyles' bookshop along with a café where you can chill out to the vibe.

Specializing in jazz since 1974, **Honest Jon's** also offers various types of music in both vinyl and CD format. In particular, it carries an extensive selection of soul and reggae. **Flashback Records** sells rare, hard to find music and collectable records, from reggae to pop.

There is a high concentration of indie vinyl and CD shops in and around Berwick Street. **Sister Ray** is the largest indie record store in the West End. For 12-inch singles, the medium of club and dance music, one of the top places to go is **Phonica** in Soho.

DIRECTORY

Foods

A Gold

42 Brushfield St E1.
Map 8 D5.
Tel 020 7247 2487.

Charbonnel et Walker

1 Royal Arcade, 28 Old Bond St W1. **Map** 12 F3.
Tel 020 7491 0939.

Hotel Chocolat Café

163 Kensington High St W8. **Map** 9 C5.
Tel 020 7938 2144.

Neal's Yard Dairy

17 Short's Gardens WC2.
Map 13 B2.
Tel 020 7240 5700.

Paul Rothe & Son

35 Marylebone Lane W1.
Map 12 E1.
Tel 020 7935 6783.

Paxton & Whitfield

93 Jermyn St SW1.
Map 12 F3.
Tel 020 7930 0259.

Rococo

321 King's Rd SW3.
Map 19 A4.
Tel 020 7352 5857.

Drinks

Algerian Coffee Stores

52 Old Compton St W1.
Map 13 A2.
Tel 020 7437 2480.

Berry Bros & Rudd

3 St James's St SW1.
Map 12 F4.
Tel 020 7396 9600.

HR Higgins

79 Duke St W1.
Map 12 D2.
Tel 020 7629 3913.

Postcard Teas

9 Dering St W1.
Map 12 E2.
Tel 020 7629 3654.

The Tea House

15A Neal St WC2.
Map 13 B2.
Tel 020 7240 7539.

The Vintage House

42 Old Compton St W1.
Map 13 A2.
Tel 020 7437 5112.

The Wine Rooms

129 Kensington Church St W8. **Map** 10 D4.
Tel 020 7727 8142.
 871–3 Fulham Road SW6.
Tel 020 7042 0440.

One-Offs

The Bead Shop

21a Tower St WC2.
Map 13 B2.
Tel 020 7240 0931.

Benjamin Pollock's Toyshop

44 The Market, Covent Garden Piazza WC2.
Map 13 C2.
Tel 020 7379 7866.

Chess & Bridge Ltd

44 Baker St W1. **Map** 12 D1.
Tel 020 7486 7015.

Halcyon Days

27 Royal Exchange, Threadneedle St EC1.
Map 12 E2.
Tel 020 7629 8811.

Honeyjam

2 Blenheim Crescent W11.
Map 9 A2.
Tel 020 7243 0449.

James Smith & Son

53 New Oxford St W1.
Map 13 B1.
Tel 020 7836 4731.

The Old Cinema

160 Chiswick High St W4.
Tel 020 8995 4166.

ScifiCollector

79 Strand WC2. **Map** 13 C3.
Tel 020 7836 2341.

VV Rouleaux

102 Marylebone Lane W1.
Map 4 D5.
Tel 020 7224 5179.

Books and Magazines

Any Amount of Books

56 Charing Cross Road WC2. **Map** 13 B2.
Tel 020 7836 3697.

Books for Cooks

4 Blenheim Crescent W11.
Map 9 B2.
Tel 020 7221 1992.

Capital Newsagents

115 Tottenham Court Rd.
Map 4 F4.
Tel 020 7388 9107.

Cinema Store

Unit 4B, Upper St Martin's Lane WC1. **Map** 13 B2.
Tel 020 7379 7838.

Daunt Books

83–4 Marylebone High St W1. **Map** 4 D5.
Tel 020 7224 2295.

Forbidden Planet

179 Shaftesbury Ave W1.
Map 13 A2.
Tel 020 7420 3666.

Foyles

107 Charing Cross Rd WC2. **Map** 13 B1.
Tel 020 7437 5660.
(One of several branches.)

The European Bookshop

123 Gloucester Rd SW7.
Map 18 E1.
Tel 020 7734 5259.

Gay's The Word

66 Marchmont St WC1.
Map 5 B4.
Tel 020 7278 7654.

Gosh!

1 Berwick St W1.
Map 13 B1.
Tel 020 7636 1011.

Gray's Inn News

50 Theobalds Rd WC1.
Map 6 D5.
Tel 020 7405 5241.

Hatchards

187 Piccadilly W1.
Map 12 F3.
Tel 020 7439 9921.

Magma

8 Earlham St WC2.
Map 13 B2.
Tel 020 7240 8498.

Marchpane

16 Cecil Court WC2.
Map 13 B2.
Tel 020 7836 8661.

Notting Hill Bookshop

13 Blenheim Crescent W11.
Map 9 A2.
Tel 020 7229 5260.

Orbital Comics

8 Great Newport St WC2.
Map 13 B2.
Tel 020 7240 0591.

Quinto & Francis Edwards

72 Charing Cross Rd WC2.
Map 13 B1.
Tel 020 7379 7669.

Stanfords

12–14 Long Acre WC2.
Map 13 B2.
Tel 020 7836 1321.

Storey's Ltd

1 & 3 Cecil Court WC2.
Map 13 B2.
Tel 020 7836 3777.

Waterstones

203/206 Piccadilly W1.
Map 13 A3.
Tel 020 7851 2400.
(One of several branches.)

Watkins Books

19–21 Cecil Court WC2.
Map 13 B2.
Tel 020 7836 2182.

Vintage Magazines

39–43 Brewer St W1.
Map 13 A2.
Tel 020 7439 8525.

CDs and Records

Flashback Records

50 Essex Rd N1.
Map 6 F1.
Tel 020 7354 9356.

Fopp

1 Earlham St WC2.
Map 13 B2.
Tel 020 7845 9770.
(One of several branches.)

Honest Jon's

278 Portobello Rd W10.
Map 9 B2.
Tel 020 8969 9822.

Phonica

51 Poland St W1.
Map 12 F1.
Tel 020 7025 6070.

Ray's Jazz

107 Charing Cross Rd WC2.
Map 13 B1.
Tel 020 7437 5660.

Rough Trade

130 Talbot Rd W11.
Map 9 C1.
Tel 020 7229 8541.

Sister Ray

34–35 Berwick St W1.
Map 13 A1.
Tel 020 7734 3297.

Gifts and Souvenirs

London is a wonderful place to shop for gifts. It boasts an impressive array of original ceramics, jewellery, perfume and glassware, exotic merchandise from around the world, including jewellery from India and Africa, stationery from Europe and kitchenware from France and Italy. The elegant, Regency-period Burlington Arcade (*see pp94*), the largest of several covered shopping arcades in central London, is known for its high-quality clothes, antique and new jewellery, leather goods and other items, many of which are made in the UK. It is also a real boon when the famously unpredictable weather turns nasty.

Shops at the big museums, such as the Victoria and Albert (*see pp214–17*), the Natural History (*see pp206–7*) and the Science Museum (*see pp210–11*), often have unusual items to take home as mementoes, while Contemporary Applied Arts and the market in Covent Garden Piazza (*see p118*) sell a range of British pottery, knitwear, pictures, clothing and other crafts. To buy all your gifts under one roof, go to Liberty (*see p113*), where beautiful stock from the world over fills every department, and the classic Liberty prints feature on many goods.

Gift Shops

If the phrase “gift shop” conjures up images of tacky tourist souvenirs, think again. A number of interesting shops bringing together a variety of goods under one roof has sprung up in the capital. **Eightsq** in Spitalfields is a delightful store with an irresistible collection covering everything from elegant furniture to interesting accessories. Bestsellers include hand-painted furniture, organic cotton baby clothes and tote bags. A short walk away, **Story**, in a beautifully preserved 18th-century residential street, looks more like a gallery space than a shop. It has an eclectic mix of items, including vintage dresses, organic bath products and modern and classic furnishings.

Across town in Notting Hill, **Brissi** is a lovely emporium kitted out with beautifully crafted household items, including elegant furniture and lamps, stylish mirrors and lighting. It also stocks fashion accessories for women, such as sun hats, tote bags and flip-flops in summer.

The **Design Museum Shop** is a museum gift shop with a difference. It stocks Post-Modern toys, games and

innovative – and in some cases surprisingly affordable – accessories for home and office by big design names such as Arne Jacobsen, Tord Boontje and Eames. There are some wonderfully witty items, such as shoe-shaped shoe brushes and a doorstop in the form of a figure holding it open.

CultureLabel, which works with a plethora of museums and galleries, sells an eclectic range of items. **House of Hackney**, though specializing in clothes and interiors, has a great range of traditional British items perfect for gifts.

Jewellery

There are styles to suit every taste, from the fine traditional jewellery found in the exclusive shops of Bond Street to unusual pieces by independent designers in areas like Covent Garden (*see pp114–23*), Gabriel's Wharf (*see p195*) and Camden Lock (*see pp335–6*). Antique jewellery can be found in Hatton Garden and the Silver Vaults (*see p145*). The Crown Jeweller, **Garrard**, in Albemarle Street, has been designing jewellery since 1735. Be warned, the spectacular creations have price tags to match the plush

store interior. **Asprey** sells updated classics, while **Butler & Wilson** specializes in reproductions of vintage jewellery and accessories. **Nude Jewellery London**, tucked away in Mayfair's Shepherd Market, deals mainly in handmade pieces, and **Kabiri**, with a store in Marylebone and a concession in Selfridges, aims to bring works of previously unseen jewellery designers to London. **Assya** is a boutique jewellery store selling precious and semi-precious pieces. It is designed as a boudoir, so customers can try on a gorgeous array of jewellery, have a drink and relax. The husband and wife duo **Wright & Teague** design covetable modern silver and gold charm bracelets and necklaces, among other things.

The **Victoria & Albert** museum shop sells modern replicas of historic British designs, as does the shop at the British Museum (*see pp128–31*). Liberty (*see p113*) stocks a wide range of attractive jewellery as well.

Hats

Traditional men's headgear, from flat caps to trilbies and top hats, can be found at **Edward Bates**. Venerable hatter **Lock & Co**, founded in 1676, caters for both men and women, while Swaine Adeney Brigg sells hats by **Herbert Johnson**, who specializes in military wear.

Philip Treacy is Britain's most celebrated milliner and his fabulous creations are on display at his shop on Elizabeth Street and in upmarket department stores. Established name **Stephen Jones** also has some very eye-catching styles, while **Jane Taylor's** beautifully made designs range from cute clothes to extravagant Ascot confections. **Fred Bare's** funky, affordable designs can be bought on Columbia Road on Sundays when the weekly flower market is in bloom, or from high-end department stores.

Bags and Leather Goods

Traditional British luggage, bags and small leather goods can be found in the streets and arcades off Piccadilly. **Swaine Adeney Brigg** sells umbrellas, hats, classic bridle-leather bags, old-fashioned walking sticks and other accoutrements for the country gent and lady. Well known for its classic, hard-wearing bags and luggage is upmarket **Mulberry**. Established in 1971, its modern interpretations of English country clothes and accessories are sought after by fashion folk as well as anyone who appreciates fine quality.

The ultimate luxury is **Connolly**, a name famous for crafting sleek leather interiors for Rolls-Royce. Its swish shop sells items that hark back to the golden age of motoring, such as leather driving jackets and shoes, magnificent tool cases and smart luggage, bound diaries and other extravagant home accessories and clothes.

J&M Davidson, owned by an Anglo-French couple, produces beautifully crafted, slightly retro bags, belts and small leather goods, often in unusual colours. The shop in Notting Hill also stocks a line of clothes and homeware. In Piccadilly, **Bill Amberg's** shop sells simple, contemporary bags in various types of leather, suede and other skins, plus gloves, wallets, leather boxes and unusual items such as a stylish leather and sheepskin baby papoose.

Lulu Guinness and **Anya Hindmarch** both bring British wit and eccentricity to their handbags. Guinness's elaborate designs have included a bag in the shape of a flowerpot topped with red roses and a circular purse resembling an old-fashioned rotary telephone dial; she also produces many London-themed items. Hindmarch is famous for personalized, digitally printed photo bags, but also produces classic leather ones. For less expensive but high quality bags, purses and wallets, try **Radley**.

Scarves

The luxury French designer store **Hermès** sells beautiful silk and cashmere scarves, often using vibrant colours. Of course, Liberty's famous print scarves are perennially popular. Small, stylish department store **Fenwick** is known for its accessories, which includes a wide array of interesting scarves by the likes of Pucci and Missoni, as well as bags, hats and a huge range of hair decorations. The **V&A Museum** shop has a good selection of scarves, including William Morris print silk scarves and stunning replica scarves inspired by V&A collections. N. Peal (*see p322*) has an extensive choice of cashmere scarves and shawls.

Perfumes and Toiletries

Many British perfumeries use recipes that are hundreds of years old. **Floris** and **Penhaligon's**, for example, still manufacture the same flower-based scents and toiletries for men and women that they sold in the 19th century. The same goes for men's specialists **Truefitt & Hill** and **George F Trumper**, where you can buy some wonderful reproductions of antique shaving equipment as well. Chemist and perfumer **DR Harris** has been making its own range of toiletries for over two centuries; it's worth stopping by just to see the old-fashioned shop.

Neal's Yard Remedies employs traditional herbal and floral remedies as bases for its natural, therapeutic products. The fragrances, skincare range and candles of **Jo Malone** use such delicious aromas as herbs, fruit, even coffee, as well as traditional floral essences. The products all come in simple yet sophisticated packaging. If you're looking for an unusual scent, head to **Miller Harris**; Grasse-trained perfumer Lyn Harris creates fragrances with remarkable depth, which come in boxes decorated with botanical prints. **Content**

is an organic skincare boutique store that sells an advanced range of beauty products, cherry-picked from around the globe. It also has a naturopathic clinic and beauty salon, making it one of London's leading organic and natural apothecaries.

Space NK stocks the best and the most up-to-date collection of beauty products from around the world, along with its popular own-brand range. **The Body Shop** uses recyclable plastic packaging for its affordable natural cosmetics and toiletries, and encourages staff and customers alike to take an interest in environmental issues.

Molton Brown sells a range of cosmetics, body and haircare products in branches throughout London. **Kiehl's** American luxury toiletries and skincare brand has its own store in Covent Garden.

Stationery

For luxurious writing paper and desk accessories, try the Queen's stationer, **Smythson** of Bond Street. The little bound notebooks and address books embossed with a wide selection of amusing and practical titles, such as "Travel Notes" and "Blondes, Brunettes, Redheads" make great gifts and souvenirs. Fortnum & Mason (*see p317*) does handsome leather-bound diaries, blotters and pencil holders, while Liberty embellishes desk accessories with its famous Arts and Crafts prints. **The Wren Press** creates high quality and prestigious stationery, including bespoke letterheads and unique invitations. It also holds two royal warrants.

Aspinal of London, known for its fine leather goods, such as hand-crafted wallets and purses, handbags and travel bags, also produces leather-bound high-end stationery. Beautiful photo albums, diaries, iPad and iPhone cases and sleeves, pencil cases and even leather-encased tape measures are sold out of their Marylebone

store, alongside all manner of other leather and non-leather gifts, such as silk and cashmere scarves.

Shepherd's Bookbinders stocks a range of hand-made and decorative papers. Its marbled paper can make a glorious giftwrap for that very special present. Finally, for greeting cards, pens, gift wrapping paper and general stationery, pop into one of the many branches of **Paperchase** scattered around the city.

Interiors

Wedgwood still makes the famous pale blue Jasper

china that Josiah Wedgwood designed in the 18th century. You can buy this and Irish Waterford crystal in many large department stores.

For a fine variety of original pottery, visit **Contemporary Ceramics**, the gallery of the Craft Potters Association, or go to **Contemporary Applied Arts**. **Mint's** hand-picked selection of unique furniture, home accessories, china and glassware by established names and up-and-coming design talent is a pleasure to browse. Large interior furnishing stores **Heal's** and the **Conran Shop** have a great selection of stylish, modern

accessories for the home. Those with more traditional tastes may prefer **Thomas Goode**, presided over by courteous tail-coated staff, which sells exquisite china, glassware, crystal, linen and gifts, including some antique pieces.

Check out **Graham & Green**, and its huge array of attractive – and affordable – items from around the globe, ranging from Moroccan tea glasses to Mongolian cushions and pretty nightwear. **Labour & Wait** is a wonderful source of solid, functional British items for home and garden, such as old-fashioned stainless

DIRECTORY

Gift Shops

Brissi

196 Westbourne Grove
W11. **Map** 10 B2.
Tel 020 7727 2159.

Design Museum Shop

224–238, Kensington
High St W8.
Map 9 C5.

Eightsq

Market Street, Spitalfields
E1. **Map** 8 D5.
Tel 020 7375 0060.

Labour & Wait

85 Redchurch St E2.
Map 8 E4.
Tel 020 7729 6253.

Story

4 Wilkes St E1. **Map** 8 E5.
Tel 020 7377 0313.

Jewellery

Asprey

167 New Bond St W1.
Map 12 F3.
Tel 020 7493 6767.

Assya London

53 Ledbury Rd W11.
Map 9 C2.
Tel 020 7243 1687.

Butler & Wilson

20 South Molton St W1.
Map 12 E2.
Tel 020 7409 2955.

Garrard

24 Albemarle St W1.
Map 12 F3.
Tel 020 7518 1070.

Kabiri

37 Marylebone High St
W1. **Map** 4 D5.
Tel 020 7317 2150.

Nude Jewellery

36 Shepherd Market,
Mayfair W1. **Map** 12 E4.
Tel 020 7629 8999.

Wright & Teague

35 Dover St W1.
Map 12 F3.
Tel 020 7629 2777.

Hats

Edward Bates

73 Jermyn St SW1.
Map 13 A3.
Tel 020 7734 4707.

Fred Bare

118 Columbia Rd E2.
Map 8 E3.
Tel 020 7229 6962.

Herbert Johnson

7 Piccadilly Arcade SW1.
Map 12 F3.
Tel 020 7409 7277.

Jane Taylor

3 Filmer Mews SW6.
Map 17 B5.
Tel 020 8392 2333.

Lock & Co

6 St James's St SW1.
Map 12 F4.
Tel 020 7930 8874.

Philip Treacy

69 Elizabeth St SW1.
Map 20 E2.
Tel 020 7730 3992.

Stephen Jones

36 Great Queen St WC2.
Map 13 C1.
Tel 020 7242 0770.

Bags and Leather Goods

Anya Hindmarch

15–17 Pont St SW1.
Map 20 D1.
Tel 020 7838 9177.

Bill Amberg

2 Lonsdale Rd NW6.
Map 9 B2.
Tel 020 8960 2000.

Connolly

4 Clifford St W1.
Map 12 F2.
Tel 020 7439 2510.

J&M Davidson

97 Golborne Rd W10.
Tel 020 8969 2244.

Lulu Guinness

3 Ellis St SW1.
Map 19 C2.
Tel 020 7823 4828.

Mulberry

50 New Bond St W1.
Map 12 E2.
Tel 020 7491 3900.

Radley

37 Floral St WC2.
Map 13 B2.
Tel 020 7379 9709.

Swaine Adeney Brigg

7 Piccadilly Arcade SW1.
Map 12 F3.
Tel 020 7409 7277.

Scarves

Fenwick

63 New Bond St W1.
Map 12 E2.
Tel 020 7629 9161.

Hermès

179 Sloane St SW1.
Map 11 C3.
Tel 020 7823 1014.
(One of several branches.)

V&A

V&A Museum, Cromwell
Rd SW7.
Map 19 A1.
Tel 020 7942 2696.

Perfumes and Toiletries

The Body Shop

66, 268 & 374 Oxford
St W1.
Map 12 D2–F1.
Tel 020 7323 2183.

Content

14 Bulstrode St W1.
Map 12 D1.
Tel 020 3075 1006.

DR Harris

52 Piccadilly W1.
Map 12 F3.
Tel 020 7499 2939.

steel kettles, Welsh blankets and Guernsey sweaters.

David Mellor is famous for his streamlined modern cutlery designs, while the ultimate cookshop **Divertimenti** sells all manner of high-quality kitchen equipment.

Emma Bridgewater has chunky mugs, crockery and tea towels, which are decorated with traditional motifs and amusing mottoes. **The Cloth Shop** in Notting Hill stocks beautiful new and antique British wool and cashmere blankets and throws, as well as cottons, velvets and soft furnishings. **Cath Kidston** designs fresh, nostalgic,

English-style prints which adorn everything from humble household items to fashion accessories. There's a huge range of pretty, giftable goods, including toiletries, ironing-board covers, laundry bags, eiderdowns, clothes for women and children, bags, china and stationery.

Several interiors stores on Upper Street in affluent Islington offer an impressive cache of gifts. **After Noah** is a big warehouse-like space bursting with vintage and retro-look items, including Bakelite rotary telephones, old metal tins and street signs, classic board games and a

huge assortment of children's toys. There is another branch in King's Road and a concession in Harvey Nichols (see p317).

The modern interiors emporium **Aria** has two stores close to each other. One of these concentrates entirely on furniture and housewares by designers such as Alessi and Philippe Starck, while its satellite across the street sells gifts, including stationery, frames, bags and jewellery. Just nearby, on Upper Street, is the contemporary-design heavy-weight **twentytwentyone**. It also has a great selection of vintage items.

DIRECTORY

Floris

89 Jermyn St SW1.
Map 13 A3.
Tel 020 7930 2885.

George F Trumper

9 Curzon St W1.
Map 12 E3.
Tel 020 7499 1850.

Jo Malone

23 Brook St W1.
Map 12 E2.
Tel 0370 192 5771.

Kiehl's

29 Monmouth St WC2.
Map 13 B1.
Tel 020 7240 2411.

Miller Harris

21 Bruton St W1.
Map 12 E3.
Tel 020 7629 7750.

Molton Brown

227 Regent St W1.
Map 12 F2.
Tel 020 7493 7319.
(One of several branches.)

Neal's Yard Remedies

15 Neal's Yard WC2.
Map 13 B1.
Tel 020 7379 7222.

Penhaligon's

13 Market Building, Covent Garden Piazza WC2.
Map 13 C2.
Tel 020 3040 3030.

Space NK

131 Westbourne Grove W2. **Map** 9 C2.
Tel 020 7727 8063.

Truefitt & Hill

71 St James's St SW1.
Map 12 F3.
Tel 020 7493 2961.

Stationery

Aspinal of London

46 Marylebone High St W1.
Map 4 D5.
Tel 020 7224 0413.

Asprey

167 New Bond St W1.
Map 12 F3.
Tel 020 7493 6767.

Paperchase

213 Tottenham Court Rd W1. **Map** 5 A5.
Tel 020 7467 6200.
(One of several branches.)

Shepherd's Bookbinders

30 Gillingham St SW1.
Map 20 F2.
Tel 020 7233 9999.

Smythson

40 New Bond St W1.
Map 12 E2.
Tel 020 7629 8558.

The Wren Press

1 Curzon St W1.
Map 12 D2.
Tel 020 7351 5887.

Interiors

After Noah

121 Upper St N1.
Map 6 F1.
Tel 020 7359 4281.

Aria

Barnsbury Hall, Barnsbury St N1. **Map** 6 F1.
Tel 020 7704 6222.

Cath Kidston

51 Marylebone High St W1.
Map 4 D5.
Tel 020 7935 6555.

The Cloth Shop

290 Portobello Rd W10.
Map 9 A1.
Tel 020 8968 6001.

Conran Shop

Michelin House, 81 Fulham Rd SW3.
Map 19 A2.
Tel 020 7589 7401.

Contemporary Applied Arts

89 Southwark St SE1.
Map 14 F3.
Tel 020 7436 2344.

Contemporary Ceramics

63 Great Russell St WC1.
Map 13 B1.
Tel 020 7242 9644.

David Mellor

4 Sloane Sq SW1.
Map 20 D2.
Tel 020 7730 4259.

Divertimenti

227-29 Brompton Rd SW3
Map 11 B5.
Tel 020 7581 2764.

Emma Bridgewater

81a Marylebone High St.
Map 4 D5.
Tel 020 7486 6897.
779 Fulham Road.
Map 17 C5.
Tel 020 7371 5264.

Graham & Green

4 Elgin Crescent W11.
Map 9 B2.
Tel 020 7243 8908.

Heal's

196 Tottenham Court Rd W1. **Map** 5 A5.
Tel 020 7636 1666.

Mint

2 North Terrace SW3.
Map 19 A1.
Tel 020 7225 2228.

Thomas Goode

19 South Audley St W1.
Map 12 D3.
Tel 020 7499 2823.

twentytwentyone

274 Upper St N1.
Map 6 F1.
Tel 020 7288 1996.

Waterford Wedgwood

Sold at John Lewis, 300 Oxford St W1.
Map 12 E1.
Tel 0844 693 1765.

Art and Antiques

London's art and antique shops are spread across the length and breadth of the capital. While the more fashionable and expensive dealers are mainly concentrated in a relatively small area bounded by Mayfair and St James's, other shops and galleries catering to more modest budgets are scattered over the rest of the city. Whether your taste is for old masters or young modern artists, Boule or Bauhaus, you are bound to find something of beauty in London that is within your financial means.

Mayfair

Cork Street is the centre of the British contemporary art world and is home to a plethora of galleries, many of which have launched the careers of major British artists.

The first gallery to open in the street was the **Mayor Gallery**, famous for Dada and Surrealism. The biggest name to look out for, however, is **Waddington Custot Galleries**. It regularly exhibits works by major twentieth-century artists, such as Henri Matisse and Peter Blake. A stop here is a must – though pieces are understandably priced highly.

Redfern Gallery shows mainstream modern art while **Flowers Central**, part of a growing modern gallery chain, has some unusual British pieces. A couple of doors down, **Browse and Darby Gallery** sells 19th- and 20th-century British and French paintings, as well as contemporary works.

Also look into Clifford Street, where **Maas Gallery** excels in Victorian masters, and Sackville Street for **Henry Sotheran's** rare books and prints. On Albemarle Street, the **Albemarle Gallery** specializes in contemporary prints and sculptures, showcasing the works of international and British artists. Established and up-and-coming talents are featured in the gallery's frequent installations.

Nearby, New Bond Street is the centre of the fine antiques trade in London. If it's Turner watercolours or Louis XV furniture you're after, this is the place. A walk up from Piccadilly takes you past **Richard Green** and the **Fine Art Society**,

among other extremely smart galleries. For jewellery and objets d'art visit **David Aaron Ancient Art and Grays Antique Market** (see p336); for silver, go to **S J Phillips**; and for 18th-century British furniture and art, try **Mallett Antiques**.

Also on New Bond Street are two of the big London auction houses, **Bonhams** and **Sotheby's** (see p333).

North of Mayfair, on a quiet Marylebone Street, is the **Lisson Gallery**, which often features cutting-edge installations. **Thompson's Gallery** has locations in Marylebone and the City, selling a diverse mix of appealing if somewhat mainstream current British art.

Even if you are not a buyer, these galleries are fascinating places to visit, so don't be afraid to walk in – you can learn more from an hour spent here than you can from weeks of studying text books.

St James's

South of Piccadilly lies a maze of 18th-century streets. This is gentlemen's club country (see *Pall Mall* p96) and the galleries mostly reflect the traditional nature of the area. At the centre is Duke Street, home of old master dealers **Johnny van Haften** and **Derek Johns**. Nearby, on King Street, you will find the main salerooms of **Christie's**, the well-known auction house where Van Goghs and Picassos change hands for millions. On the corner of Bury Street, celebrating past masculine pleasures is the sophisticated **Pullman Gallery**, which specializes in automobile art

and collectables, racy cigarette cases, vintage cocktail shakers and other bar accessories.

Walk back up Bury Street past several interesting galleries, including the **Tryon Gallery** for traditional British sporting pictures and fine sculptures. Also duck into Ryder Street to take in **Chris Beetle's** gallery of works by illustrators and caricaturists.

Knightsbridge

If you walk around to the back of Harrods (see p317), you'll find the beginning of pretty Walton Street, which is lined with art galleries, traditional interiors shops and boutiques. As you would expect in this exclusive area, prices are high. On nearby Brompton Road, the **Crane Kalman** gallery shows an enticing variety of contemporary art. Motcomb Street houses some notable galleries, including the fascinating **Mathaf Gallery**, which features 19th-century British and European paintings of the Arab world.

Pimlico Road

The antique shops that line this road tend to cater predominantly for the pricey requirements of the interior decorator. This is where to come if you are searching for an Italian leather screen or a silver-encrusted ram's skull. **Westenholz** specializes in 18th and 19th century decorative furniture and has some delightful pieces. While he doesn't deal in antiques, the Queen's nephew, furniture designer **Viscount Linley** produces some beautiful pieces that could pass as such, as well as contemporary designs. The finely crafted accessories, such as inlaid wooden boxes and frames, make great gifts.

East and West London

London's East End is a growth area for contemporary art. **Flowers East** in Kingsland

Road represents sculptors, painters and photographers. There is a cluster of art dealers and galleries in **The Tea Building** on nearby Shoreditch High Street. **The Approach** combines an upstairs gallery with a good pub, frequented by local artists. The **Hundred Years Gallery** in Hoxton frequently shows the work of internationally emerging artists.

On the other side of the river in southeast London, **Purdy Hicks**, based in a converted warehouse near Tate Modern, is great for contemporary British painting. The **Oxo Tower Wharf**, in a landmark Thameside building topped by a good restaurant, is a hive of creativity, housing over 30 design and craft studios. You can find everything from handwoven textiles and jewellery to homewares and fashion. Among the highlights are Black + Blum's innovative, affordable interior designs – for example, a lamp in the shape of a reading figure, made up of a lightbulb “holding” a book shade. Bodo Sperlain focuses on modern tableware and Studio Fusion works with different materials to produce innovative jewellery and silverware.

There are some interesting contemporary galleries in the vicinity of Portobello Road and Westbourne Grove. **East West Gallery** is great for contemporary art, **Themes & Variations**, combines striking postwar and contemporary furniture and decorative art, and **Gallery 85** boasts a range of the finest antiques, including some exceptional Meissen porcelain.

A browse along Kensington Church Street in west London will take you to a concentration of small antiques emporia that has everything from Arts and Crafts furniture to Staffordshire pottery dogs.

North London

High-profile American dealer Larry Gagosian contributed to the regeneration of famously sleazy King's Cross by opening

his second gallery here, in a capacious former garage. Expect world-class contemporary names and lesser-known artists at **Gagosian Gallery**. **Victoria Miro's** massive Victorian warehouse in Islington is a showcase for British as well as young international talent.

Affordable Art

For the chance to acquire a work by what could become one of the big names of the future, visit the **Contemporary Art Society**. Its annual ARTFutures market showcases the work of more than 100 artists, at prices from £100 to well into the thousands.

Open seven days a week all year round, **Will's Art Warehouse** in Putney sells pieces for between £50 and £3,000. This friendly gallery has a wide variety of art and holds a new exhibition every six weeks. The owner founded the aptly named Affordable Art Fair, which takes place twice a year in Battersea Park.

Photography

The largest collection of original photographs for sale in the country is to be found in the print sales room of the **Photographers' Gallery**. It displays work from emerging global talents and established artists, as well as works from its historical archives over its three floors of exhibition space.

Atlas Gallery is one of the foremost galleries in London dealing exclusively with fine art photography. It is the official gallery for Magnum photographs. **Hamiltons Gallery** is worth visiting, especially during its major exhibitions.

Michael Hoppen's three-floor space in Chelsea shows both vintage and current works. If you want to take home a piece of London's rock 'n' roll heritage, the **Rock Archive**, near Camden Passage in Islington, is a great source of limited-edition photographic prints of British music legends such as Paul Weller posing with

Pete Townshend or Mick Jagger jamming with Ronnie Wood.

Bric-a-Brac and Collectables

For smaller, more affordable pieces, it's worth going to one of the established London markets, such as Portobello Road (see p337), Camden Passage (see p336) or Bermondsey (see p335), which is the main antiques market, catering to the trade. Grays Antique Market (see p336) has some great specialist dealers, but the prices are a bit higher than elsewhere given the location, while further afield, Greenwich Market (see p336) is well worth a rummage and may throw up some bargains. Many high streets out of the city centre have covered markets of specialist stalls.

Alfies Antique Market is London's largest indoor market for antiques and collectables. The dealers are experienced specialists, and anyone interested in 20th-century design and vintage fashion especially will enjoy browsing the eclectic stock here.

Auctions

If you are confident enough, auctions are a much cheaper way to buy art or antiques, but be sure to read the small print in the catalogue, which usually costs around £15. Bidding is simple – you need to register, take a number, then raise your hand when the lot you want comes up. The auctioneer will see your bid. It's as easy as that, and can be great fun.

The main auction houses in London are **Christie's Fine Art Auctioneers**, **Sotheby's Auctioneers** and **Bonhams**. Don't forget Christie's saleroom in Kensington, which deals with art and antiques for a more modest budget. Bonhams' second London saleroom in Knightsbridge also holds weekly auctions of affordable antiques and collectables.

DIRECTORY

Mayfair

Albemarle Gallery

49 Albemarle St W1.
Map 12 F3.
Tel 020 7499 1616.

Browse and Darby Gallery

19 Cork St W1.
Map 12 F3.
Tel 020 7734 7984.

David Aaron Ancient Art

22 Berkeley Square W1.
Map 12 E3.
Tel 020 7491 9588.

Fine Art Society

148 New Bond St W1.
Map 12 E2.
Tel 020 7629 5116.

Flowers Central

21 Cork St W1.
Map 12 F3.
Tel 020 7439 7766.

Grays Antique Market

58 Davies St & 1–7 Davies Mews W1.
Map 12 E2.
Tel 020 7629 7034.

Henry Sotheran

2 Sackville St W1.
Map 12 F3.
Tel 020 7439 6151.

Lisson Gallery

29 & 52–4 Bell St NW1.
Map 3 B5.
Tel 020 7724 2739.

Maas Gallery

15a Clifford St W1.
Map 12 F3.
Tel 020 7734 2302.

Mallett Antiques

37 Dover St W1S.
Map 12 F3.
Tel 020 7499 7411.

Mayor Gallery

22a Cork St W1.
Map 12 F3.
Tel 020 7734 3558.

Redfern Gallery

20 Cork St W1.
Map 12 F3.
Tel 020 7734 1732.

Richard Green

33 & 147 New Bond St.
Map 12 E2.
Tel 020 7499 4738.

S J Phillips

139 New Bond St W1.
Map 12 E2.
Tel 020 7629 6261.

Thompson's Gallery

15 New Cavendish St W1.
Map 4 E5.
Tel 020 7935 3595.

Waddington Custot Galleries

11, 12 & 34 Cork St W1.
Map 12 F3.
Tel 020 7851 2200.

St James's

Chris Beetle

8 & 10 Ryder St SW1.
Map 12 F3.
Tel 020 7839 7551.

Derek Johns

12 Duke St SW1.
Map 12 F3.
Tel 020 7839 7671.

Johnny van Haften

13 Duke St SW1.
Map 12 F3.
Tel 020 7930 3062.

Pullman Gallery

14 King St SW1.
Map 12 F4.
Tel 020 7930 9595.

Tryon Gallery

7 Bury St SW1.
Map 12 F3.
Tel 020 7839 8083.

Knightsbridge

Crane Kalman

178 Brompton Rd SW3.
Map 19 B1.
Tel 020 7584 7566.

Mathaf Gallery

24 Motcomb St SW1.
Map 12 D5.
Tel 020 7584 2396.

Pimlico Road

Linley

60 Pimlico Rd SW1.
Map 20 D2.
Tel 020 7730 7300.

Westenholtz

297 Lillie Rd SW6.
Map 17 A5.
Tel 020 7386 1888.

East and West

The Approach

1st Floor, 47 Approach Rd E2. **Tel** 020 8983 3878.

East West Gallery

8 Blenheim Cres W11.
Map 8 D4.
Tel 020 7229 7981.

Flowers East

82 Kingsland Rd E2.
Tel 020 7920 7777.

Gallery 85

85 Portobello Rd W11.
Map 9 A1.
Tel 020 7243 6365.

Hundred Years Gallery

13 Pearson St E2.
Map 8 D2.
Tel 020 3602 7973.

Oxo Tower Wharf

Bargehouse St SE1.
Map 14 E3.
Tel 020 7021 1600.

Purdy Hicks

65 Hopton St SE1.
Map 14 F3.
Tel 020 7401 9229.

The Tea Building

56 Shoreditch High St E1.
Map 8 D4.
Tel 020 7101 2020.

Themes & Variations

231 Westbourne Grove W11.
Map 9 B2.
Tel 020 7727 5531.

North

Gagosian Gallery

6–24 Britannia St WC1.
Map 5 C3.
Tel 020 7841 9960.

Victoria Miro

16 Wharf Rd N1.
Map 7 A2.
Tel 020 7336 8109.

Affordable Art

Contemporary Art Society

59 Central St EC1.
Map 7 A3.
Tel 020 7017 8400.

Will's Art Warehouse

180 Lower Richmond Rd SW15. **Tel** 020 8246 4840.

Photography

Atlas Gallery

49 Dorset St W1.
Map 3 C5.
Tel 020 7224 4192.

Hamiltons Gallery

13 Carlos Place W1.
Map 12 E3.
Tel 020 7499 9493.

Michael Hoppen

3 Jubilee Place SW3.
Map 19 B3.
Tel 020 7352 3649.

Photographers' Gallery

16–18 Ramilies St W1.
Map 12 F1.
Tel 020 7087 9300.

Rock Archive

Image Space Gallery,
 199 Bishopsgate EC2M.
Map 8 D5.
Tel 020 7267 4716.

Bric-a-Brac and Collectables

Alfies Antique Market

13–25 Church St NW8.
Map 3 A5.
Tel 020 7723 6066.

Auctions

Bonhams

Auctioneers
 Montpelier St SW7.
Map 11 B5.
Tel 020 7393 3900.
 101 New Bond St W1.
Map 12 E2.
Tel 020 7447 7447.

Christie's Fine Art Auctioneers

8 King St SW1.
Map 12 F4.
Tel 020 7839 9060.
 85 Old Brompton Rd SW7.
Map 18 F2.
Tel 020 7930 6074.

Sotheby's Auctioneers


34–35 New Bond St W1.
Map 12 E2.
Tel 020 7293 5000.

Markets

Even if you're not looking for cut-price cabbages or a silk sari, it's worth paying a visit to one of London's crowded, colourful markets. Many mix English traditions with those of more recent immigrants, creating an exotic atmosphere and a fascinating patchwork of merchandise. At some, the seasoned Cockney hawkers have honed their sales patter to an entertaining art, which reaches fever pitch just before closing time as they advertise ever-plummeting prices. Keep your wits about you and your hand on your bag and join in the fun.

Archway Market


Holloway Rd N19.  Archway.

 4, 17, 41, 43, 143, 271. **Open** noon–6pm Thu, 10am–5pm Sat.

This young and growing market is one of North London's best kept secrets. Its speciality traders are committed to offering shoppers things great produce, including organic cheeses, breads and cakes, gourmet pickles and chutneys, farm-pressed juices and much more. Tasty lunch options include Breton crêpes, spicy curries and organic hot dogs. Several craft stalls sell unusual objects and gifts.

Bermondsey Market (New Caledonian Market)


Long Lane and Bermondsey St SE1.

Map 15 C5.  London Bridge, Borough. **Open** 6am–2pm Fri. Starts closing midday. See pp186–7.

Bermondsey is the gathering point for London's antique traders every Friday. Serious collectors start early and scrutinize the paintings, the silver and the vast array of old jewellery. Browsers might uncover some interesting curiosities but most bargains go before 9am.

Berwick Street Market


Berwick St W1. **Map** 13 A1.

 Piccadilly Circus, Leicester Sq. **Open** 9am–6pm Mon–Sat. See p112.

The spirited costermongers of Soho's Berwick Street sell some of the cheapest and most appealing fruit and vegetables in the West End. Spanish black radish, star fruit and Italian plum tomatoes are among the produce you might find here, plus a variety of nuts and sweets. The market is good for fabrics and cheap household goods too, as well as leather handbags. Separated from Berwick Street by a passageway is the quieter Rupert Street market, where stallholders sell very reasonably priced street fashion.

Borough Market

Southwark St SE1. **Map** 15 B4.

 London Bridge, Borough. **Open** 10am–5pm Wed & Thu, 10am–6pm Fri, 8am–5pm Sat; for lunch: 10am–5pm Mon & Tue. See p180.

On one of London's most ancient trading sites, Borough has for many years been a wholesale market catering to the restaurant and hotel trade. Open to the public from Wednesday to Saturday, the award-winning market has a reputation as London's premier centre for fine foods, selling a vast array of British and international foodstuffs. Among the cornucopia is organic meat, fish and produce, top-quality handmade cheeses, breads, sweets and chocolates, plus coffees, teas and also soaps. It's a favourite foraging ground for the city's celebrity chefs.

Brick Lane Market

Brick Lane E1. **Map** 8 E5.

 Shoreditch, Liverpool St, Aldgate East. **Open** 11am–6pm Sat, 10am–5pm Sun. See pp174–5.

This massively popular East End jamboree is at its best around its gloriously frayed edges. Pick through the mish-mash of junk sold on Bethnal Green Road or head east on Cheshire Street, past the outcrop of fashionable home-design and gift shops, to explore the indoor stalls, packed with tatty furniture and old books. Much of the action takes place in cobbled Sclater Street and the plots on either side. Here, you'll find everything from fresh shellfish and trainers to old power tools and new bicycles. Further south on Brick Lane itself, the trendy boutiques and cafés give way to spice shops and curry restaurants in this centre for London's Bangladeshi community.


Brixton Market

Electric Ave SW9.  Brixton.

Open 8am–6pm Mon, Tue, Thu–Sat, 8am–3pm Wed.

This lively market lies at the heart of London's Caribbean community, so expect a wonderful assortment of Afro-Caribbean food, from goats' meat, pigs' feet and salt fish to plantain, yams and breadfruit. As well as fresh produce, stalls are laden with crafts, fabrics, children's toys and secondhand vinyl. On the third Saturday of the month the market is taken over by vintage clothes, jewellery and furniture. In nearby Brixton Village and Market Row there is an abundance of street food restaurants and cafés, serving everything from Neapolitan pizzas to bowls of delicious ramen.

Broadway Market

Broadway Market, between Andrews Rd & Westgate St E8.  236, 394.

Open 7:30am–7pm Sat.

Although this market is a bit tricky to get to because it's not served by the Tube, it's worth getting a bus from Islington or walking from Bethnal Green Tube. One of London's oldest, Broadway Market had gone into decline until its rebirth as a popular organic farmers' market. On Saturdays, the historic street running between London Fields and the Regent's Canal comes alive with around 40 stalls selling fruit and vegetables, cheeses, baked goods, meats and confectionery. Also lining Broadway Market are some interesting, arty shops, catering to the young creative types who have been colonizing this part of Hackney over the past couple of decades. Black Truffle (No. 4) stocks a range of accessories made by independent designers – both local and international – while textile designer Barley Massey sells her own unusual designs and those of others at Fabrications (No. 7). L'Éau à la Bouche (No. 35–37) is a deli offering everything from charcuterie to fruit tarts. When it's time to refuel, duck into the Dove pub (No. 24–28) for a choice of Belgian beers.

Camden Lock Market

Chalk Farm Road NW1.  Camden Town. **Open** 9:30am–6pm daily.

Camden Lock Market has grown swiftly since its opening in 1974, spreading along Chalk Farm Road and Camden High Street. Crafts, new and second-hand street fashion, wholefoods, books, records and antiques make up most of what's on offer. Its setting alongside the Regent's Canal is a bonus, too. Often, young people come here simply to enjoy the vibrant atmosphere, especially at weekends when Camden Lock is abuzz with activity (see p250).

Camden Passage Market

Camden Passage N1. **Map** 6 F1.

☞ **Angel. Open** 9am–6pm Wed & Sat, 10am–6pm Fri, 11am–6pm Sun.

Camden Passage is a quiet walkway where cafés nestle among bijou antique shops. Prints, silverware, 19th-century magazines, jewellery and toys are among the many collectables on offer. Don't miss the tiny shops tucked away in the atmospherically poky Pierrepont Arcade; one is precariously stacked with 18th- and 19th-century porcelain; another specializes in antique puzzles and games. The passage is also lined with shops – Annie's Vintage Clothes is known for pristine 1920s–40s frocks, while Origin sells classic 20th-century furniture. There's a specialist book market on Thursdays.

Chapel Market

Chapel Market N1. **Map** 6 E2.

☞ **Angel. Open** 9am–6pm Tue–Sat, 8:30am–4pm Sun.

This is one of London's most traditional and exuberant street markets, and is best visited on weekends. Its produce is second to none: the fruit and vegetables are varied and cheap, the fish stalls are the finest in the area, and there are also stalls selling European delicacies and cheeses. Visitors will also find a wealth of bargain household goods.

Church Street Market

Church St NW8 and Bell St NW1.

Map 3 A5. ☞ **Edgware Rd.**

Open 8am–6pm Mon–Sat.

Like many of London's markets, Church Street reaches a crescendo at the weekend. On Friday and Saturday, stalls selling cheap clothes, household goods, fish, cheese and antiques join the everyday fruit and vegetable stalls. Alfies Antique Market (Nos. 13–25) houses around 100 dealers selling everything from jewellery to furniture. There is also a cluster of interesting stand-alone antique furniture shops, including James Worrall Antiques (No. 2), showcasing beautiful pieces from all over Europe.

Columbia Road Market

Columbia Rd E2. **Map** 8 D3.

☞ **Shoreditch, Old St.**

Open 8am–3pm Sun. See p175.

This is the perfect place to come to buy greenery and blossoms, or just to enjoy the fragrances and colours. Cut flowers, plants, shrubs, seedlings and pots are all sold at about half

their normal prices on a Sunday morning in this charming Victorian street. (In December, as you might expect, there's a brisk trade in Christmas trees.) There is also a selection of vintage and modern china for sale, and alongside the market are some lovely shops that keep market hours, such as Angela Flanders' pretty perfumery (No. 96), Glitterati for vintage jewellery and watches (No. 148), and leather specialists Kaye Symons (No. 144). When you're shopped out, take tea at Treacle (No. 110–112), which turns out cute retro cupcakes and classic jam sponge cakes, plus cups of proper tea to wash them down. Alternatively, snack on deep-fried prawns from hole in the wall, Lee's Seafoods (No. 134).

Earlham Street Market

Earlham St WC2. **Map** 13 B2.

☞ **Covent Garden. Open** 10am–4pm Mon–Sat.

Radiating off Seven Dials (see p120), this market is a small affair. Several stalls sell a range of items from second-hand clothes to fashion jewellery and accessories.

East Street Market

East St SE17. ☞ **Elephant and Castle.**

Open 8am–5pm Tue–Fri,

8am–6:30pm Sat, 8am–2pm Sun.

East Street Market, also known as The Lane or East Lane, is best visited on a Sunday. More than 250 stalls fill the narrow street and a small plant and flower market is set up on Blackwood Street. The majority of traders sell clothes, accessories and household goods, although there is plenty of local and Afro-Caribbean produce, fish and other delicacies. Charlie Chaplin (see p33) was born in this street and was inspired by characters he encountered in the area.

Gabriel's Wharf and Riverside Walk Markets

56 Upper Ground and Riverside Walk

SE1. **Map** 14 E3. ☞ **Waterloo. Gabriel's**

Wharf. Open 11am–6pm Tue–Sun;

Riverside Walk **Open** noon–7pm Sat & Sun. See p195.

At Gabriel's Wharf, little shops filled with ceramics, paintings and jewellery surround a bandstand where jazz groups sometimes play in the summer. A few stalls are set up around the courtyard, selling ethnic clothing and handmade jewellery

and pottery. On Riverside Walk, a book market stands under Waterloo Bridge, with rows of tables laden with new and secondhand books, including much sought-after Penguin paperbacks.

Grays Antique Market

58 Davies St & 1–7 Davies Mews W1.

Map 12 E2. ☞ **Bond St. Open**

10am–6pm Mon–Fri, 11am–5pm Sat.

Conveniently sited in the West End, Grays probably isn't the place to bag a bargain – the liveried doorman is a tip-off that this place is posh – but it makes a pleasant place to browse. There are some lovely pieces here, from costume jewellery and fabulous vintage fashion to enamel boxes and modern first editions from the bookseller Biblion.

Greenwich Market

College Approach SE10. **Map** 23 B2.

☞ **Greenwich. ☞ Cutty Sark DLR.**

Open 10am–5:30pm Tue–Sun.

Situated in the maritime town of Greenwich, this covered market is packed with up to 120 stalls. Loosely divided into two sections, one side devotes itself to unique crafts, wooden toys, clothes, handmade jewellery and accessories, and much more. The other does a storming trade in street food. Ethiopian curries, roasted meats, gluten-free chocolate brownies, the freshest sushi: no one will be left wanting. Surrounding the market are vintage shops, a pub, children's stores and an excellent sweet shop.

Jubilee and Apple Markets

Covent Gdn Piazza WC2. **Map** 13 C2.

☞ **Covent Gdn. Open** Apple Market:

10:30am–6pm daily (to 7:30pm Thu);

Jubilee Market: 5am–5pm Mon,

10:30am–7pm Tue–Fri, 10am–6pm Sat & Sun.

In the centre of bustling Covent Garden, both the Apple and Jubilee markets sell crafts and designer goods. The Apple Market, inside the Piazza where the original fruit and vegetable market was housed (see p118), has knitwear, jewellery and novelty goods. The Piazza is also home to a plethora of shops, cafés and restaurants. Jubilee Hall sells antiques on Monday, crafts at the weekend, and a large selection of clothes, handbags, cosmetics and tacky mementoes in between. The East Colonnade Market also has a variety of stalls, selling handmade soaps to hand-knitted children's clothing.

Leadenhall Market

Whittington Ave EC3. **Map** 15 C2.

🚶 Bank, Monument. **Open** 10am–6pm Mon–Fri. See p162.

There has been a marketplace on this site since medieval times, but the present spectacular glass-roofed structure was built in 1881.

Leadenhall Market traditionally sold fish, meat and poultry, but only fishmonger HS Linwood & Sons remains. The smart red and green façades now bear the names of upmarket clothing chains, restaurants, pubs and gift shops. Leadenhall does, however, retain something of its reputation as a centre for fine food. More than a dozen stalls set up shop on the cobblestones beneath this dramatic structure Monday to Friday from 10am to 6pm, selling European cheeses, cured meats, baked goods, condiments and other gourmet delicacies.

Leather Lane Market

Leather Lane EC1. **Map** 6 E5.

🚶 Farringdon, Chancery Lane. **Open** 10am–2pm Mon–Fri.

This ancient street, originally called Leveroun Lane, has played host to a market for over 300 years. The history of the lane, however, has nothing to do with leather. Stalls here sell cut-price high-street clothes, plus shoes, bags, jewellery and accessories. All are well worth a browse.

Marylebone Farmers' Market

Cramer St car park, behind Marylebone High St W1. **Map** 4 D5. 🚶 Baker St, Bond St. **Open** 10am–2pm Sun.

There are many farmers' markets across the city, enabling farmers and other producers to sell directly to the public. Locations include Islington Green and the car park behind Waterstones, Notting Hill, but Marylebone is the largest and most central, offering seasonal fruit and veg, dairy products, fish, meat, breads, preserves and sauces. There is also a line-up of excellent gourmet shops in adjacent Moxon Street, including a renowned rare-breed pork butcher, the Ginger Pig, and La Fromagerie delicatessen with its extensive cheese cave.

Old Spitalfields Market

Commercial St E1. **Map** 8 D5.

🚶 Aldgate East, Liverpool St. **Open** 10am–5pm Mon–Wed, 9am–5pm Thu & Sat, 10am–4pm Fri, 11am–5pm Sun. See p173.

The main market is on a Sunday, and

is a mecca for those interested in the latest street fashion trends. Many young designers have stalls, and prices are also reasonable. The stalls are of mixed quality, so you have to search for the gems. The organic food stalls and a selection of cafés make it a good brunch venue. A varying number of stalls are open during the week.

Petticoat Lane Market

Middlesex St E1. **Map** 16 D1.

🚶 Liverpool St, Aldgate, Aldgate East.

Open 9am–2pm Sun (Wentworth St 10am–4:30pm Mon–Fri). See p173.

Probably the most famous of all London's street markets, Petticoat Lane continues to attract many thousands of visitors and locals every Sunday. The prices may not be as cheap as elsewhere, but the sheer volume of leather goods, clothes (Petticoat Lane's traditional strong point), watches, cheap jewellery and toys more than make up for that. A variety of fast-food sellers do a brisk trade catering for the bustling crowds that throng the market on a weekend.

Piccadilly Crafts Market

St James's Church, Piccadilly W1.

Map 13 A3. 🚶 Piccadilly Circus, Green Park. **Open** antiques: 10am–6pm Tue. Arts and crafts: 10am–6pm Wed–Sat.

Many of the markets in the Middle Ages were held in churchyards and Piccadilly Crafts Market has rekindled that ancient tradition. It is aimed mostly at visitors rather than locals, and the merchandise ranges from tacky T-shirts to wooden toys. All are spread out in the shadow of Wren's beautiful church (see p94).

Portobello Road Market

Portobello Rd W10. **Map** 9 C3.

🚶 Notting Hill Gate, Ladbroke Grove.

Open antiques and junk:

5:30am–5:30pm Sat. General market: 9am–6pm Mon–Wed, 9am–1pm Thu, 9am–7pm Fri & Sat. See p223.

Portobello Road is really three or four markets rolled into one. The Notting Hill end has more than 1,000 stalls in numerous arcades and on the street itself, displaying a variety of jewellery, old medals, paintings and silverware. Most stalls are managed by experts, so bargains are very rare. Further down the gentle hill, antiques give way to fruit and vegetables. The next transformation comes under the Westway flyover, where young fashion designers sell inexpensive creations alongside second-hand clothes, record and food stalls on

Fridays and Saturdays. It's also worth venturing into the covered Portobello Green market, which has an interesting mix of small shops selling everything from avant-garde fashion to kitsch cushions and lingerie. From this point on, the market becomes increasingly shabby.

Ridley Road Market

Ridley Rd E8. 🚶 Dalston.

Open 6am–6pm Mon–Thu, 6am–7pm Fri & Sat.

Early last century, Ridley Road was a centre of the Jewish community. Since then, Asians, Greeks, Turks and West Indians have also settled in the area and the market is a lively celebration of this cultural mix. Highlights include the 24-hour bagel bakery, shanty-town shacks selling green bananas and reggae records, colourful drapery stalls, and cheap fruit and vegetables.

Roman Road Market

Roman Rd, between Parnell Rd and St Stephen's Rd E3. 🚶 Bethnal Green.

🚶 & **Open** 10am–4pm Tue & Thu, 9am–5pm Sat. Farmers' market 1st Sat of month.

This lively market established in the 19th century has a real East End flavour and traditionally sells everything from cheap bedding and fashion to cut-price cleaning products and fruit and veg. Chances are that you'll be treated to some colourful Cockney patter from the stallholders trying to drum up custom. As well as the standard market traders, some more unusual vendors, street entertainers and special events add variety to the mix; you could find yourself tempted by handmade jewellery, vintage clothes or antiques.

Shepherd's Bush Market

Goldhawk Rd W12. 🚶 Goldhawk Rd, Shepherd's Bush.

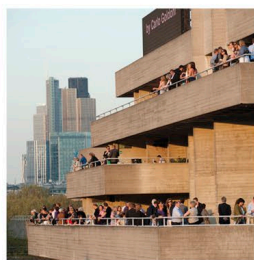
Open 9am–6pm Mon–Sat.

A focal point for many local ethnic communities, this rambling market contains an impressive volume of eclectic wares. West Indian food, Afro wigs, Asian spices, exotic fish, rugs and other household goods are just some of the attractions. There are acres of cheap clothing for every occasion, from floral flannel nighties and men's suits to clubwear and elaborately beaded wedding gowns. Cheap fabric stalls are a highlight of the Shepherd's Bush Market, and there is even an on-site tailor and barber.

ENTERTAINMENT

London has the enormous, multi-layered variety of entertainment that only the great cities of the world can provide. Theatre fans can spend the evening in the company of Shakespeare's Hamlet, sit mesmerized during a reworking of a classic play or sing along to everyone's favourite showtunes at a West End musical. There's a healthy, innovative fringe theatre scene too, plus world-class ballet and opera in fabled venues such as Sadler's Wells, the Royal Opera House and the Coliseum. Enjoy a piece of contemporary dance or try out your own dance moves at one of the city's many nightclubs. Music fans are spoiled with a variety of venues hosting the best of all genres, be it classical, jazz, rock or pop, while dedicated movie

buffs have hundreds of different films to choose from each night, shown in large, multiscreen complexes or excellent small independent cinemas. Sports fans can watch a game of cricket at Lords, cheer on oarsmen on the Thames or eat strawberries and cream at Wimbledon. Those feeling sporty themselves can try horse riding along Rotten Row in Hyde Park or follow in the footsteps of Olympians at the Queen Elizabeth Park. There are festivals and celebrations to attend, and there's plenty for children to do, too – in fact, there's plenty for everyone to do. Whatever you want, you'll be sure to find it on offer in London; it's just a question of knowing where to look.



Top: performers at the Theatre Royal Drury Lane; Above left: visitors enjoying the view at the National Theatre on the South Bank; Above right: the Theatre Royal Haymarket

G2 section and weekly listings in "The Guide" on Saturday. *The Independent*, *Guardian* and *The Times* all have lists of ticket availability.

Specialized news sheets, brochures and advance listings are distributed free in the foyers of theatres, concert halls, cinemas and arts complexes such as the South Bank and Barbican. Transport for London Visitor Centres and hotel foyers often have the same publications. Fly posters advertise forthcoming events on billboards everywhere.

The **Society of London Theatre (SOLT)** publishes an informative free broadsheet every fortnight, available in many theatre foyers. It provides invaluable information about what's on but tends to concentrate on mainstream theatres. SOLT's website provides full details of current

Information Sources

For details of events in London, check out **Time Out London's** website. *Time Out* also publishes a free comprehensive listings and review magazine every Tuesday, which can be picked up at most Tube and train stations. The weekday commuter newspapers the *Metro* (morning) and the *Evening Standard* are both

free and give brief daily listings. National newspapers are a useful source, too. *The Independent* has daily listings and a weekly round-up section titled "The Information". It also reviews a different arts sector every day. *The Guardian* has daily arts reviews in its



Café sign advertising free live music

productions plus news, interviews, access information and online ticket booking. The **London Theatre** website showcases a range of performances in the capital, with reviews, news, tickets and theatre seating plans.

Booking Tickets

Some of the more popular shows and plays in London's West End – starring big-name actors, for instance – can be totally booked out weeks and even months ahead. Though this isn't the norm for every show – and tickets are often available on the day – it is always best to book tickets in advance, especially if you are keen to see a particular show.

Tickets can be bought from the theatre box office in person, by telephone or online. Box offices are usually open from 10am to 8pm and accept payment by cash and credit card. Theatre websites will usually show the seating plan with available seats and prices highlighted. To reserve seats by telephone, call the box office and have your debit or credit card ready. Some venues have separate phone numbers for your credit card bookings and some don't accept credit cards at all, so always check. Pre-booked tickets can be collected at the theatre or posted to you – tickets are often not posted until nearer the show run. Remember to take your payment card with you if you are collecting from the theatre.

Tickets are also available from agencies, such as Ticketmaster. Always compare prices, try to avoid agencies in bureaux de



Line-up from the Royal Ballet, on stage at Covent Garden

change, and do not be tempted to buy from ticket touts or unofficial Internet sources.

Many venues sell unclaimed or returned tickets on the day of the performances; ask at the box office for queuing times.

reserves 700 standing tickets for every performance for £5 only.

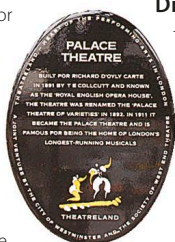
Get Into London Theatre runs an annual ticket promotion during January and February, where tickets are available for a plethora of shows for £10–£40.

Discounted Tickets

The TKTs booth in Leicester Square has been in operation since 1980 and is a great place to find discounted tickets for big West End shows, plays, operas and ballets. It sells on-the-day tickets, sometimes for half the price. It opens Monday to Saturday 10am–7pm

and 11am–4:30pm on Sundays.

Many theatres release a set amount of tickets for as little as £10, so it is worth signing up to theatre mailing lists. A number of reduced-price tickets are usually available to those under 25. The Globe (see p181)



Palace Theatre plaque

Disabled Visitors

Many London venues are old buildings and were not originally designed with disabled visitors in mind, but a lot of facilities have been updated, particularly to give access to those using wheelchairs, or for those with hearing difficulties.

Telephone the box office prior to your visit to reserve the special seating places or equipment, which are often limited. Special discounts may be available; for details and information on facilities, visit **Artsline's** website.

DIRECTORY

Listings and Booking

Artsline

artsline.org.uk

Get Into London Theatre

getintolondontheatre.co.uk

London Theatre

londontheatre.co.uk

Society of London Theatre (SOLT)

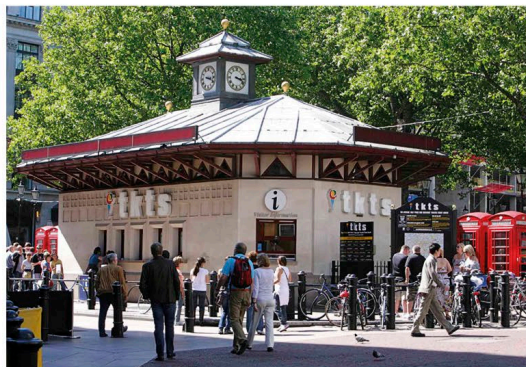
officiallondontheatre.co.uk

Time Out London

timeout.com/london

TKTs Leicester Square

tkts.co.uk



The TKTs booth in Leicester Square

Theatres

London offers an extraordinary range of theatrical entertainment – this is one of the world's great stages, and, at its best, standards are extremely high. Despite their legendary reputation for reserve, the British are passionate about theatre and there is an abundance of plays and shows performed around the capital: you can stroll along a street of West End theatres and find a sombre Samuel Beckett, Brecht or Chekhov play showing next door to some absurdly frothy farce like *No Sex Please, We're British!* Whether you are a fan of Shakespeare or musicals, there is something here for you.

West End Theatre

There is a distinct glamour to the West End theatres. Perhaps it is the glittering lights of the foyer and the impressively ornate interiors, or maybe it is their hallowed reputations – but whatever it is, the old theatres retain a magic all their own.

The West End's billboards always feature a generous sprinkling of world-famous performers such as Judi Dench, Benedict Cumberbatch, Kenneth Branagh and Nicole Kidman.

The major commercial theatres cluster along Shaftesbury Avenue and Haymarket and around Covent Garden and Charing Cross Road. Unlike the national theatres, most West End theatres survive only on profits; they do not receive any state subsidy. They rely on an army of ever-hopeful "angels" (financial backers) and producers to keep the old traditions alive.

Many theatres are historical landmarks, such as the classic **Theatre Royal Drury Lane**, established in 1663 (*see p119*), and the elegant **Theatre Royal Haymarket** – both superb examples of early 19th-century buildings. Another to note is the **Palace** (*see p112*), with its terracotta exterior and imposing position right on Cambridge Circus.

National Theatres

The **National Theatre** is based in the Southbank Centre (*p192*). Here, the large, open-staged Olivier, the proscenium-staged Lyttelton and the small, flexible

Cottesloe host every kind of production from large, extravagant works to small, one-man shows. The complex is also a lively social centre. Enjoy a drink before your play begins; watch the crowds and the river drift by; wander round the many free art exhibitions; relax during the free early evening concerts in the foyer or browse through the theatre bookshop.

The **Royal Shakespeare Company** is one of Britain's leading theatre companies. With an unparalleled reputation for its dramatic interpretation of the works of Shakespeare, the world renowned ensemble continually attracts big crowds to its performances. Although its official home since the 19th century has been in Stratford-upon-Avon, the company has maintained a regular London presence since the 1960s. Previously located at the Barbican Centre, the RSC enjoys regular London seasons in the West End, at the Novello Theatre and other smaller venues. To find out where the RSC is performing in London, call their ticket hotline.

National Theatre

(Lyttelton, Cottesloe, Olivier) Southbank Centre SE1. **Map** 14 D3. **Tel** 020 7452 3000. **W** nationaltheatre.org.uk

Royal Shakespeare Company

Tel 0844 800 1110 (tickets, information). **W** rsc.org.uk

Pantomime

Should you happen to be visiting London between December and February, one

thing not to miss is a trip to the pantomime. Guaranteed to entertain all the family, "panto" is an absurd tradition in which major female characters are played by men and male characters by women. The audience is encouraged to participate, by shouting out traditional panto cheers. The shows are usually based on children's stories such as Cinderella, Peter Pan and Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs, and more often than not feature British celebrities from the world of television and music. Whatever adults may think of it, children love the experience.

Open Air Theatre

A performance of one of Shakespeare's airier creations, such as *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, takes on an atmosphere of pure enchantment among the green vistas of **Regent's Park** (*see p228*). Lavish opera productions are staged during the summer months in **Holland Park** (*see p222*). Wear warm clothing, take a blanket and, to be safe, an umbrella. Refreshments are available, or you can take a picnic.

Open-air performances of a different kind can be experienced at **Shakespeare's Globe** on Bankside (*see p181*). This authentic reproduction of an Elizabethan playhouse, open to the skies – but with protected seating – is open to visitors all year round but only puts on performances in the summer months.

Holland Park Theatre

Holland Park. **Map** 9 B4.

Tel 020 7361 3570. **Open** Jun–Aug.

W operahollandpark.com

Open Air Theatre

Inner Circle, Regent's Park NW1.

Map 4 D3. **Tel** 0844 826 4242.

Open Jun–Sep.

W openairtheatre.org

Shakespeare's Globe

New Globe Walk SE1. **Map** 15 A3.

Tel 020 7401 9919. **Performances** Apr–

Oct. **W** shakespearesglobe.com

DIRECTORY

West End Theatres

Adelphi 15

Strand WC2.
Tel 020 3725 7060.

Aldwych 18

Aldwych WC2.
Tel 0845 200 7981.

Ambassadors 26

West St WC2.
Tel 0844 811 2334.

Apollo 32

Shaftesbury Ave W1.
Tel 0844 482 9671.

Cambridge 24

Earlham St WC2.
Tel 0844 412 4652.

Criterion 7

Piccadilly Circus W1.
Tel 020 7839 8811.

Dominion 23

Tottenham Court Rd.
Tel 0844 847 1775.

Duchess 16

Catherine St WC2.
Tel 0844 482 9672.

Duke of York's 5

St Martin's Lane WC2.
Tel 0844 871 3051.

Fortune 20

Russell St WC2.
Tel 0844 871 7627.

Garrick 4

Charing Cross Rd WC2.
Tel 0844 482 9673.

Gielgud 31

Shaftesbury Ave W1.
Tel 0844 482 5141.

Harold Pinter 8

Panton St SW1.
Tel 0844 871 7627.

Her Majesty's 10

Haymarket SW1.
Tel 0844 412 4653.

Lyceum 15

Wellington St WC2.
Tel 0844 844 0005.

Lyric 33

Shaftesbury Ave W1.
Tel 0844 482 9674.

Leicester Square Theatre 6

Leicester Pl W1.
Tel 020 7734 2222.

New London 21

Drury Lane WC2.
Tel 020 7242 9802.

Noel Coward 1

St Martin's Lane WC2.
Tel 0844 482 5138.

Novello 17

Aldwych WC2.
Tel 0844 482 5170.

Palace 28

Shaftesbury Ave W1.
Tel 0844 482 9676.

Phoenix 27

Charing Cross Rd WC2.
Tel 020 7438 9600.

Piccadilly 34

Denman St W1.
Tel 0844 412 6666.

Playhouse 12

Northumberland Ave WC2.
Tel 0844 871 7631.

Prince Edward 29

Old Compton St W1.
Tel 0844 482 5151.

Prince of Wales 6

Coventry St W1.
Tel 0844 482 5115.

Queen's 30

Shaftesbury Ave W1.
Tel 0844 482 5160.

Shaftesbury 22

Shaftesbury Ave WC2.
Tel 020 7379 5399.

St Martin's 25

West St WC2.
Tel 0844 499 1515.

Theatre Royal Drury Lane 19

Catherine St WC2.
Tel 0844 412 4660.

Theatre Royal Haymarket 9

Haymarket SW1.
Tel 020 7930 8890.

Trafalgar Studios 11

Whitehall SW1.
Tel 0844 871 7632.

Vaudeville 14

Strand WC2.
Tel 0844 482 9675.

Wyndham's 2

Charing Cross Rd WC2.
Tel 0844 482 5138.



Fringe Theatre

London's fringe theatre acts as an outlet for new, adventurous plays produced by a variety of writers from different cultures and backgrounds – works by Irish writers appear regularly, as do plays by Caribbean and Latin American authors and feminist and gay writers.

The plays are usually staged in tiny theatres based in pubs, such as the **Gate Theatre** above the Prince Albert pub in Notting Hill, the **King's Head** in Islington and the **Latchmere** pub in Battersea, or in warehouses and spare space in larger theatres, such as the **Donmar Warehouse** and the **Lyric**.

Venues like the **Bush Theatre**, the **Almeida** and the **Jerwood Theatre Upstairs** at the Royal Court have earned their reputations for discovering outstanding new works, some of which have subsequently transferred successfully to the West End.

Foreign-language plays are sometimes performed at national cultural institutes; for example, you might be able to catch Molière at the **Institut Français** or Brecht at the **Goethe Institut**; check the listings magazines.

For alternative stand-up comedy and cabaret, where you can encounter the sharp edge of satire with its brash, newsy style, try the **Comedy Store**, the birthplace of so-called "alternative" comedy, or the **Hackney Empire**, a former Victorian music hall that showcases local talent and hosts theatre, music and comedy events.

Budget Tickets

There is a wide range of prices for seats in London theatres.

The cheaper West End tickets, for example, can cost under £10, whereas the best seats for musicals hover around £35–50. However, it is usually quite possible to obtain cheaper tickets.

"tkts" (*see p339*) is the only official discount theatre ticket shop in London, and sells tickets on the day of the performance for a wide range of mainstream shows. Located on the south side of Leicester Square, the booth is open Monday to Saturday 10am–7pm for matinee and evening shows, and Sunday 11am–4:30pm for matinees only. Payment is by cash or credit card, and there is a strict limit of four tickets per purchase, and a small service charge.

You can sometimes get reduced-price seats for matinee performances, press and preview nights – it is always worth checking with the box office to see what they currently have on offer.

Choosing Seats

If you go to the theatre in person or book online, you will be able to see the theatre's seating plan and note where you can get a good view at an affordable price. If you book by telephone, you should note the following: stalls are in front of the stage and expensive. The back stalls are slightly cheaper; dress, grand or royal circles are above the stalls and cheaper again; the upper circle or

balcony offer the cheapest seats but you will have to climb several flights of stairs; the slips are seats that run along the edges of the theatre; boxes are the most expensive option.

It is also wise to bear in mind that some of the cheap seats have a restricted view.

Theatre Tours

Those intrigued by what goes on behind the scenes should try a backstage tour. The National Theatre (*see p340*) organizes tours of its three stages – Lyttleton, Olivier and Cottesloe – as well as the workshops and dressing rooms. The London Palladium also offers a backstage guided tour complete with an account of the theatre's history.

Haunted Theatres

Many of London's oldest theatres are reputed to be haunted; however, the two most famous spectres haunt the Garrick and the Duke of York's (*see p341*). The Garrick is heavily atmospheric and the ghost of Arthur Bourchier, a manager at the turn of the 20th century, is reputed to make fairly regular appearances. He hated critics and many believe he is still trying to frighten them away. The Duke of York's theatre is said to be haunted by Violet Melnotte, an actress manager during the 1890s, who was famed for her extremely fiery temper.

Fringe Theatre

Almeida

Almeida St N1.
Tel 020 7359 4404.

Bush Theatre

Shepherds Bush Green W12.
Tel 020 8743 5050.

Comedy Store

1a Oxendon St WC2.
Map 13 B3.
Tel 0844 871 7699.

Donmar Warehouse

41 Earlham St WC2.
Map 13 B2.
Tel 0844 871 7624.

Gate Theatre

The Prince Albert Pub,
11 Pembridge Rd W11.
Map 9 C3.
Tel 020 7229 0706.

Goethe Institut

50 Prince's Gate,
Exhibition Rd SW7.
Map 11 A5.
Tel 020 7596 4000.

Hackney Empire

291 Mare St E8.
Tel 020 8985 2424.

Institut Français

17 Queensberry Pl SW7.
Map 18 F2.
Tel 020 7871 3515.

King's Head

115 Upper St N1. Map 6
F1. Tel 020 7478 0160.

Lyric

King St, Hammersmith
W6. Tel 020 8741 6850.

Theatre 503

The Latchmere Pub, 503
Battersea Park Rd SW11.
Tel 020 7978 7040.

Royal Court

Sloane Sq SW1.
Map 19 C2.
Tel 020 7565 5000.

Cinemas

If you can't find a movie you like in London, then you don't like movies. The huge choice of British, American, foreign-language, new, classic, popular and special-interest films makes London a major international film centre, with about 250 different films showing at any one time. There are about 50 cinemas in the centre of London alone, many of them ultramodern multiscreened complexes. The big commercial chains show current blockbusters and a healthy number of independent cinemas throughout the city offer some inventive programming drawing on the whole history of film.

West End Cinemas

"West End" is a loose term for the main cinemas in the West End of London, which show new releases, such as the **Odeon Leicester Square**, but it also includes the cinemas found in Chelsea, Fulham and Notting Hill. Programmes begin around midday and are then repeated every two or three hours, with the last show around 9pm; there are often late-night screenings on Fridays and Saturdays.

Tickets tend to be expensive, but admission is often cheaper for afternoon performances or on Mondays. Reservations are recommended.

BFI London IMAX

Boasting the largest cinema screen in Britain, the BFI IMAX regularly shows the latest Hollywood blockbusters alongside more alternative films and documentaries. It also has a programme of educational films that benefit from appearing on the big screen, including trips under the sea and into space.

Independent Cinemas

These cinemas often show foreign-language and slightly more offbeat art films and sometimes change programmes daily or even several times each day. Some cinemas show two or three films, often on the same theme.

The best of the "indies" include the **Prince Charles**, just by Leicester Square, the **Everyman** in locations across north London, the ICA in the Mall, the **Picturehouse** chain, with cinemas across London, and the BFI Southbank.

In summer, outdoor screenings take place in parks, up on rooftops and in other inspired locations, such as Somerset House (see p121).

BFI Southbank

Formerly known as the National Film Theatre, BFI Southbank is located in the Southbank Centre. It has four cinemas of its own, which together offer a huge and diverse selection of films, both British and international. It also holds regular screenings of

rare and restored films and television programmes.

Foreign-Language Films

These are screened at a number of repertory and independent cinemas, including the **Prince Charles**, the **Curzon Soho** in Shaftesbury Avenue, the **Curzon Bloomsbury** and **Ciné Lumière**. Films are shown in the original language, with English subtitles.

Film Certificates

Children are allowed to go to a cinema unaccompanied by an adult to films which have been awarded either a U (universal) or a PG (parental guidance advised) certificate for viewing. Children must be accompanied by an adult to view a film rated 12A.

With other films, the numbers 12, 15 or 18 quite simply denote the minimum ages allowed for admission to the cinema.

London Film Festival

The most important cinema event in Britain is held every autumn, when hundreds of films – some of which will have already won awards abroad – from a number of countries are screened. The BFI Southbank, several of the repertory cinemas and some of the big West End cinemas take part in the festival. Details are published in listings magazines. Tickets are quite hard to come by but some standby tickets may be available to the public 30 minutes before a screening.

Cinema Addresses

BFI London IMAX

Waterloo Rd SE1.

Map 14 D4.

Tel 0330 333 7878.

BFI Southbank

Southbank Centre SE1.

Map 14 D3.

Tel 020 7928 3232.

Ciné Lumière

Institut Français, 17
Queensberry Pl SW7.

Map 18 F2.

Tel 020 7871 3515.

Curzon Bloomsbury

Brunswick Sq WC1.

Map 5 C4.

Tel 0330 500 1331.

Curzon Soho

93–107 Shaftesbury
Ave W1.

Map 13 B2.

Tel 0330 500 1331.

Everyman

Hollybush Vale NW3.

Map 1 A5.

Tel 0871 906 9060.

Odeon Leicester Square

Leicester Sq, WC2.

Map 13 B2.

Tel 0333 006 7777.

Prince Charles

Leicester Pl, WC2.

Map 13 B2.

Tel 020 7494 3654.

Picturehouse

Locations across London.

 picturehouses.com

Opera, Classical and Contemporary Music

Opera has had a somewhat elitist reputation in Britain. However, televised concerts and free outdoor events in Hyde Park and the Covent Garden Piazza have greatly increased its popularity. London is home to five world-class orchestras and a veritable host of smaller music companies and contemporary music ensembles; it also houses three permanent opera companies and numerous smaller opera groups and leads the world with its period orchestras. It is a major centre for the classical recording industry, which helps to support a large community of musicians and singers. Mainstream, obscure, traditional and innovative music are all to be found in profusion. Following is a list of venues showcasing opera, classical and contemporary music. Check listings (see p338) for events occurring during your visit.

Royal Opera House

Floral Street WC2. **Map** 13 C2. **Tel** 020 7304 4000. See p119. **W** roh.org.uk
The building, with its elaborate red, white and gold interior, is the home of the Royal Opera and the Royal Ballet, but visiting opera and ballet companies also perform here. Many productions are shared with foreign opera houses, so check that you haven't already seen the same production at home. Works are always performed in the original language, English translations flashed up above the stage.

Seats are usually booked well in advance, particularly if major stars such as Plácido Domingo or Anna Netrebko are performing. Tickets range from about £5 to £200 or more for world-class performers. The cheapest seats tend to go first, although a number of these tickets are reserved for sale on the day. Some of the cheaper seats have extremely restricted views. Standing passes can often be obtained right up to the time of a performance. Standby information is available on the day, and there are often concessions on tickets.

London Coliseum

St Martin's Lane WC2. **Map** 13 B3. **Tel** 0871 911 0200 (24 hrs), 020 7845 9300 (booking). See p123. **W** eno.org
The Coliseum, built in the early 1900s, is home to the English National Opera (ENO). The company's hallmarks are performances in English, high musical standards and a

permanent ensemble complemented by guest appearances. Productions range from the classic to the adventurous. For weekday performances, there are 500 prebookable seats at £10 and under.

Southbank Centre

Southbank Centre SE1. **Map** 14 D4. **Tel** 0844 875 0073. See pp190–91. **W** southbankcentre.co.uk

The Southbank Centre includes the **Royal Festival Hall (RFH)**, the **Queen Elizabeth Hall** and the **Purcell Room**. There are nightly performances, mostly of classical music, interspersed with opera, jazz, ballet and modern dance seasons, as well as festivals of contemporary and ethnic music. The largest concert hall on the South Bank is the Royal Festival Hall. Built in the 1950s, it is considered one of the best modernist structures in London. The airy halls outside the auditorium house exhibitions and there are a number of cafés, and a book and music shop.

The Purcell Room is comparatively small and tends to host chamber and contemporary music in addition to many debut recitals. The Queen Elizabeth Hall lies somewhere in between. It stages medium-sized ensembles whose audiences, while too large for the Purcell Room, would not fill the Festival Hall. The hall is undergoing renovation until 2017 and performances will be staged at St John's Smith Square (see p345).

London Music Festivals

The BBC-run Promenade concerts are mostly held at the Royal Albert Hall (see p345) between July and September. More than 70 concerts feature soloists, orchestras and conductors from around the world, performing a wide repertoire, from much-loved classics to newly commissioned pieces. Every concert is broadcast live both on the radio and online. Tickets are best bought in advance, but 500 standing or "promming" places are sold on the day, one and a half hours before the performance. The City of London Festival is held annually in June and July, when churches and public buildings in the City host a range of varied musical events. Venues such as the Tower of London (see pp158–9) and Goldsmiths' Hall lend a special atmosphere to the events. Many concerts are free. For more details, contact the information office (0845 401 5040) from May onwards.

Resident orchestras at the Southbank Centre include the world-class London Philharmonic Orchestra and the Philharmonia Orchestra. The Royal Philharmonic and the BBC Symphony Orchestra are frequent visitors, along with leading ensembles and soloists such as Angela Gheorghiu, Mitsuko Uchida, Stephen Kovacevich and Anne-Sofie von Muttter. World-renowned conductors who have appeared here include Daniel Barenboim, Kurt Masur and Simon Rattle.

The Academy of St Martin-in-the-Fields, the London Festival Orchestra, the London Classical Players and the London Mozart Players all have regular seasons. The often controversial Opera Factory makes several appearances throughout the year, performing modern interpretations of the classics.

There are also frequent free foyer concerts, and throughout the summer the centre is well worth visiting.

Barbican Concert Hall

Silk Street EC2. **Map** 7 A5. **Tel** 020 7638 8891. *See p172.* **w** barbican.org.uk

The Barbican is the home of the London Symphony Orchestra (LSO). Classical concerts are performed by the resident LSO and the BBC Symphony Orchestra, as well as many other visiting orchestras and ensembles, as part of the Barbican's own international concert seasons. The concert hall also hosts performances of contemporary music, including jazz, blues and world music.

Royal Albert Hall

Kensington Gore SW7. **Map** 10 F5. **Tel** 020 7589 8212. *See p209.* **w** royalalberthall.com

Each year the Royal Albert Hall hosts over 300 concerts and events, from ballet to rock and pop concerts. From mid-July to mid-September, it is devoted to the Henry Wood Promenade Concerts, the "Proms". Organized by the BBC, the season features performances by orchestras and soloists (*see p344*). Tickets for the Proms can be bought on the day of performance or booked in advance. Long queues build up early in the day and keen fans – Promenaders – take cushions to sit on. Tickets sell out weeks ahead for the "Last Night of the Proms", which has become a national institution.

The hall is also open for tours that take you on a journey through its extraordinary history.

Handel & Hendrix in London

25 Brook St W1. **Map** 12 E2. **Tel** 020 7495 1685. *See p101.* **w** handelhendrix.org

In the restored Georgian house where George Frideric Handel lived from 1723 until his death in 1759, Handel & Hendrix in London (formerly the Handel House Museum) provides an intimate venue for performances. Thursday night recitals of Baroque music using period instruments are held in the panelled rehearsal and performance room, where Handel himself would have entertained his guests. Concert tickets include access to the museum. Check the website for more details.

Outdoor Music

London has many outdoor musical events in summer. Many royal parks, palaces, stately homes, National Trust properties and council parks host a range of music festivals and performances throughout summer. Arrive early as the concerts are popular, particularly if fireworks are to accompany the music. Take a sweater and a picnic. Purists beware – people walk around, eat and talk throughout and the music is amplified so it can be a little distorted. These events sell out fast and it's best to book tickets in advance.

Venues include Hyde Park (*see p213*), Marble Hill House in Twickenham (*see p258*), Kenwood House (*see pp239–9*), Crystal Palace Park and Holland Park (*see p222*).

Wigmore Hall

36 Wigmore St W1. **Map** 12 E1. **Tel** 020 7935 2141. *See p230.* **w** wigmore-hall.org.uk

Because of its excellent acoustics, the Wigmore Hall is a favourite with visiting artists, and attracts international names such as Andreas Scholl and András Schiff. It hosts a concert most evenings, broadcasts live on BBC radio on Monday lunchtimes and has a Sunday morning concert from September to July.

St Martin-in-the-Fields

Trafalgar Sq WC2. **Map** 13 B3. **Tel** 020 7766 1100. *See p106.* **w** stmartin-in-the-fields.org

This elegant Gibbs church on the corner of Trafalgar Square hosts over 350 performances every year. Orchestras as disparate as the Belmont Ensemble and the London Oriana Choir provide evening concerts. The choice of each programme is partly dictated by the religious year; for example, Bach's *St John Passion* is played at Ascensiontide. Visitors can enjoy, among other events, an evening concert held by candlelight or a free lunchtime concert (Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays).

St John's Smith Square

Smith Sq SW1. **Map** 21 B1. **Tel** 020 7222 1061. *See p85.* **w** sjss.org.uk

This converted Baroque church has good acoustics and seating. It hosts concerts by groups such as the Academy of Ancient Music, the London Mozart Players, the Monteverdi Choir and Polyphony. The concert period runs from September to mid-July.

Broadgate Arena

3 Broadgate EC2. **Map** 7 C5. **w** broadgate.co.uk

This open-air venue in the City offers a summer season of lunchtime concerts, with varied programmes from up-and-coming musicians.

Music Venues

Orchestral

Barbican Concert Hall
Broadgate Arena
Queen Elizabeth Hall
Royal Albert Hall
Royal Festival Hall
St Martin-in-the-Fields
St John's Smith Square

Chamber and Ensemble

Barbican Concert Hall
Broadgate Arena
Handel & Hendrix in London
LSO St Luke's
Purcell Room
Royal Festival Hall foyer
St Martin-in-the-Fields
St John's Smith Square
Wigmore Hall

Soloists and Recitals

Barbican Concert Hall
Handel & Hendrix in London
Purcell Room
Royal Albert Hall
St Martin-in-the-Fields
St John's Smith Square
Wigmore Hall

Children's

Barbican Concert Hall
Royal Festival Hall

Free

Barbican Concert Hall
Royal Festival Hall foyer
Royal National Theatre foyer
St Martin-in-the-Fields (lunchtime)

Early Music

Purcell Room
Wigmore Hall

Contemporary Music

Barbican Concert Hall
Southbank Centre

Dance

An array of London venues including the Royal Opera House, the London Coliseum, Sadler's Wells and The Place theatre all regularly host performances by both London-based dance companies and those visiting from around the world, from the classic Bolshoi Ballet to the innovative Jaleo Flamenco. There are also performances at the Southbank Centre and other arts centres across the city. Companies specialize in a range of styles from classical ballet to mime, jazz, experimental and world dance. With the exception of the resident ballets, most companies have short seasons, seldom lasting longer than a fortnight and often less than a week – check listings for details (*see p338*).

Ballet

The **Royal Opera House** (*see p119*) and the **London Coliseum** in St Martin's Lane are by far the best venues for classical ballet, providing a stage for visiting foreign companies. The Opera House is home to the world-class Royal Ballet, which performs an extensive repertory. Book well in advance for classics such as *Swan Lake* and *Giselle*. The company also performs some contemporary ballet; triple-bill performances provide a mixture of new and old, and seats are normally quite readily available.

The English National Ballet holds its summer season at the **London Coliseum**. Under artistic director Tamara Rojo, prima ballerina, the ballet performs both classical and contemporary productions.

Sadler's Wells, though primarily dedicated to contemporary dance, hosts some classical productions.

Contemporary

Sadler's Wells in Islington, near Angel, has a proud reputation as the host of contemporary dance companies from around the world and has been active, in one form or another, since the 18th century. There are regular visits from such luminaries as the Nederlands Dance Theatre and the Alvin Ailey Company from New York. The innovative English ensemble Rambert has a regular, twice-yearly slot at the theatre – usually in May and November. The **Peacock Theatre** (the West End home of Sadler's Wells) features performances of popular dance styles such as salsa and hip hop, and even hosts contemporary circus dance groups.

The Place is a hub of activity: it is home to the London Contemporary Dance School and a dance theatre that stages some 200 performances a year. A purpose-built space in

Deptford, south London, the **Laban Theatre** presents a rich and diverse mix of dance, music and physical theatre.

Other venues include the **Institute of Contemporary Arts** (ICA) (*see p96*) and the **Chisenhale Dance Space**, a centre for small companies currently regarded as being on the experimental fringes.

World Dance

World dance is well represented in the capital and visiting groups perform traditional dance from all over the world. Both **Sadler's Wells** and the **Riverside Studios** (reopening in 2018 following redevelopment) are major venues, while companies specializing in specific dance styles, including Indian and Far Eastern, have seasons at the Southbank Centre, often in the **Queen Elizabeth Hall**. Check listings magazines for details.

Dance Festivals

London has two major contemporary dance festivals each year featuring many different companies. Spring Loaded runs from February to April, while Dance Umbrella runs from early October to early November. Listings magazines carry all the details. Other smaller festivals include Almeida Dance, from the end of April to the first week of May at the **Almeida Theatre**, and The Turning World, a festival in April and May showcasing dance from all over the world.

Dance Venues

Almeida Theatre

Almeida St N1.
Tel 020 7359 4404.
www.almeida.co.uk

Chisenhale Dance Space

64 Chisenhale Rd E3.
Tel 020 8981 6617.
www.chisenhaledance.space.co.uk

ICA

Carlton House Terrace,

The Mall SW1.

Map 13 A4.
Tel 020 7930 3647.
www.ica.org.uk

Laban Theatre

Creekside SE8.
Map 23 A2.
Tel 020 8463 0100.

London Coliseum

St Martin's Lane WC2.
Map 13 B3.
Tel 020 7845 9300.
www.eno.org/London-Coliseum

Peacock Theatre

Portugal St WC2. Map 14 D1. Tel 020 7863 8222.
www.peacocktheatre.com

The Place

17 Duke's Rd WC1. Map 5 B3. Tel 020 7121 1100.
www.theplace.org.uk

Queen Elizabeth Hall

Southbank Centre SE1.
Map 14 D4.
Tel 0844 875 0073.
www.southbankcentre.co.uk

Riverside Studios

Crisp Rd W6.
Tel 020 8237 1000.
www.riversidestudios.co.uk

Royal Opera House

Floral St WC2. Map 13 C2.
Tel 020 7304 4000.
www.roh.org.uk

Sadler's Wells

Rosebery Ave EC1.
Map 6 E3.
Tel 020 7863 8198.
www.sadlerswells.com

Rock, Pop, Jazz and World Music

Rock giants, pop divas, jazz legends: London has hosted them all and the city continues to draw the biggest names in music while nurturing acts that could be the next big thing. There may be as many as 80 listed concerts on an ordinary weeknight: rock or reggae, folk or soul, all tastes are catered for and in venues all over the city. In addition to gigs, music festivals are held across the capital in parks, pubs, halls and stadiums. Check the listings websites and magazines (see p338) and keep your eyes open for publicity posters and flyers.

Major Venues

Global superstars such as Beyoncé, the Rolling Stones and Taylor Swift inevitably include a night or two in London while on tour. More often than not the **O2 Arena** in Greenwich, the indoor **Wembley Arena** and the **Eventim Apollo** are the venues of choice, or, if the performers are looking for something a little more elegant, the grand **Royal Albert Hall**.

The **O2 Academy Brixton** and **The Forum** are next in prominence and size. Each can accommodate an audience of well over 2,000 people, and for many Londoners these former cinemas are the capital's best venues, with seating upstairs, standing room downstairs and accessible bars.

Rock and Pop

The capital has a healthy and diverse rock and pop scene. In Camden, **Koko** has hosted some of the biggest names in music including Coldplay, Katy Perry and Madonna. It has a busy calendar of gigs featuring up-and-coming bands and current favourites. Nearby, **The Underworld** promotes alternative music. Though a relatively small venue, it has hosted artists such as Radiohead and the Foo Fighters. The venue is also home to two nightclubs. Once upon a time, Jimi Hendrix and Led Zeppelin took to the stage at the **Roundhouse** in Chalk Farm. In its current incarnation, this excellent venue features a programme of acts that range from pop

princess Ellie Goulding to metalheads Opeth. The venue is a Grade II-listed former railway repair shed and the main concert space has an impressive domed ceiling. Just up the road is **Barfly**, which some refer to as a music institution. It is a popular choice for those looking for the latest rock and indie bands – some of the biggest names in rock played early gigs here. They also took to the stage at **The Garage** at Highbury Corner, another favourite venue of rock fans.

Those looking for somewhere a little different should check out the events list at the **Union Chapel** in Islington. A working church with stunning Gothic architecture, this award-winning venue has hosted a variety of acts including Tom Jones and Billy Bragg.

The **O2 Shepherd's Bush**, like its sister venue in Brixton, is a safe bet for chart-toppers, music legends and fresh talent. Mumford & Sons, Pearl Jam and Prince have all entertained the crowds here.

Lastly, pubs and clubs across the capital regularly host live acts – always check listings when you visit to catch an evening of great music.

Jazz

The number of jazz venues in London continues to grow – both the music and the lifestyle which are romantically imagined to go with it are popular once again. **Ronnie Scott's** in the West End is still the pick of the vintage crop,

and since the 1950s, many of the finest performers in the world have come to play here, including Ella Fitzgerald, Nina Simone and Curtis Mayfield. The **100 Club** in Oxford Street is another very popular venue for confirmed jazz fans. Jazz and food have formed a partnership at venues such as the largely vegetarian **Jazz Café**, the branch of **Pizza Express** on Dean Street and the **Mau Mau Bar** on Portobello Road.

The **Southbank Centre** (see pp190–91) and the **Barbican** (see p169) schedule formal jazz concerts and free jazz in the foyers.

World Music

World music encompasses different styles of music from around the globe. It includes, though is by no means limited to, African, Latin and South American music. The popularity of traditional musical styles has even sparked a revitalization of British and Irish folk music. **Cecil Sharp House** has regular shows for folk purists, while the **ICA** (see p96) hosts a range of acts. **Cargo** in Shoreditch has an eclectic programme of live music that includes African beats and Latin funk. Hot Latin nights are held at **Salsa!** on Charing Cross Road, and laid-back vibes pervade the **Notting Hill Arts Club**. For the widest selection of African sounds and food in town, try visiting the **Africa Centre** in Covent Garden. The **Barbican Centre** and the Southbank Centre's **Royal Festival Hall** and **Queen Elizabeth Hall** all include world music on their programmes.

London's large West Indian community has contributed to a lively reggae scene. At the **Notting Hill Carnival** (see p61), in late August, many top bands perform free. Reggae has now become integrated with the mainstream rock music scene, and bands appear at most of London's rock venues.

Clubs

The old cliché that London dies when the pubs shut no longer holds true. Europe has long scoffed at Londoners going to bed at 11pm when the night is only just beginning in Paris, Madrid and Rome, but London has caught on at last and you can revel all night if you want to. The best clubs are not all confined to the city's centre – initial disappointment that your hotel is a half-hour Tube ride from Leicester Square can be offset by the discovery of a trendy club right on your doorstep.

Practical Information

Fashions and club nights change very rapidly and nightspots open and close down all the time. Some of the best club nights are one-nighters – check listings magazines (*see p338*). Be aware that most clubs have bouncers on the door who may check your ID, look inside your bag (for security reasons) and ensure that your attire conforms with the club dress code. If you are heading out to a particular club, it's worth doing a bit of research before you go.

A few clubs require that you arrange membership 48 hours in advance, and you may also find that you have to be introduced by a member. Again, check these details in listings magazines. Groups of men may not be welcome, so split up before going in; expect to queue to get in. Entrance fees may seem reasonable, but drinks tend to be overpriced.

Opening times are usually 10pm–3am Monday to Saturday, although many clubs stay open until 6am at the weekend and some open on Sunday from about 8pm to midnight.

Mainstream

London offers a broad selection of nightclubs that cater for all musical tastes and budgets.

Most of the more upmarket nightclubs in London, for example **Annabel's**, have a strict members-only policy; they require nominations by current members and have long waiting lists, so unless you mix in privileged circles you are unlikely to get in.

Traditional disco-type clubs include the **Café de Paris**, where you can dine and boogie the night away. For those keen on samba and Latin beats **Guanabara** in Covent Garden is friendly, unpretentious and fun.

Further north, the **Forum** hosts popular club nights, which feature classic soul, funk and R&B. Similar clubs are **East Village** in Shoreditch and the **Tattershall Castle**, a disco boat moored on the bank of the Thames.

Fashionable Venues and Club Nights

London is easily one of the most innovative club capitals in the world and there are plenty of venues that explain why.

Heaven, the city's best-known gay club, hosts an excellent house night. With its huge dance floor, excellent lasers, sound systems and lightshows it's very popular, so start queuing early. **The Roxy** in Soho is a relaxed club and bar playing a mixture of indie, electronic and pop. The **Ministry of Sound** is a New York-style club that set the pattern for others to follow, hosting some of the world's best-known DJs. If you are feeling energetic, club nights are also run at the **Queen of Hoxton** in trendy Shoreditch. Try **XOYO** also in Shoreditch, or the cavernous, warehouse-style **Egg** near King's Cross for funky house, electro and old skool, and for die-hard clubbers there's always **Fabric**. **Electric Brixton**, formerly the much-loved Fridge, hosts club events and live music.

As with many clubs, **Bar Rumba** has different themes on different evenings. One of the most popular is salsa night and the club runs dance classes

for those wishing to perfect their moves. **Cargo**, with a calendar of live acts, features some of London's funkier sounds. **93 Feet East** showcases a variety of live music and club nights from indie and rock to techno beats.

In Kensington, **The Roof Gardens** is London's only rooftop private members club. It opens on Friday and Saturday nights, admits over-21s only and has a "no effort, no entry" dress code. Apply for entry via the website, www.roofgardensclub.com.

LGBT

London's best-known gay bars and late-night clubs can be found in Soho. One of the most popular clubs is **The Village** on Wardour Street, which has disco nights on Thursday and Friday, and podium dancers every Saturday. The iconic **G-A-Y Bar** is renowned for its mixed gay nights. In Piccadilly, **The Electric Carousel** (a reincarnation of Soho's legendary Madame Jojo's) is a fabulous whirl of glittering colour and extreme high camp. **Heaven**, with its huge dance floor, bar and video lounge under the arches at Charing Cross station, continues to draw big crowds.

South of the river, Vauxhall is home to several clubs that stay open until the early hours. Though not technically a club, the **Royal Vauxhall Tavern** is an institution and is worth visiting for its cabaret events alone.

Casinos

To gamble in London, you must be a member, or at least the guest of a member, of a licensed gaming club. Most clubs are happy to let you join but membership must be arranged 48 hours in advance. Many will let you in to use facilities other than the gambling tables until about 4am, when most close. Many clubs also have "hostesses" – beware the cost of their company.

DIRECTORY

Major Music Venues

Eventim Apollo

Queen Caroline St W6.
Tel 0844 249 4300 (tickets),
020 8563 3800 (venue).

The Forum

9–17 Highgate Rd NW5.
Tel 020 7428 4080.

O2 Academy Brixton

211 Stockwell Rd SW9.
Tel 0844 477 2000.

O2 Arena

Peninsula Square SE10.
Tel 020 8463 2000.

Royal Albert Hall

See p209.

SSE Arena, Wembley

Empire Way, Wembley,
Middlesex HA9.
Tel 0844 815 0815, 0844
824 4824.

Rock and Pop Venues

Barfly

49 Chalk Farm Rd NW1.
Map 4 F1.
Tel 020 7424 0800.

Koko

1a Camden High St NW1.
Map 4 F2.
Tel 0870 432 5527.

The Garage

20–22 Highbury Corner, N5.
Tel 0844 847 1678.

O2 Shepherd's Bush Empire

Shepherd's Bush Green
W12. Tel 0844 477 2000.

The Roundhouse

Chalk Farm Rd NW1.
Tel 0300 678 9222

The Underworld

174 Camden High St NW1.
Map 4 F1.
Tel 020 7482 1932.

Union Chapel

The Vestry, Compton
Ave N1.
Tel 020 7226 1686.

Jazz Venues

100 Club

100 Oxford St W1.
Map 13 A1.
Tel 020 7636 0933.

Barbican Hall

See p172.

Jazz Café

5 Parkway NW1.
Map 4 E1.
Tel 020 7485 6834.

Mau Mau Bar

265 Portobello Rd W11.
Map 9 A1.
Tel 020 7229 8528.

Pizza Express

10 Dean St W1.
Map 13 A1.
Tel 0845 602 7017.

Ronnie Scott's

47 Frith St W1.
Map 13 A2.
Tel 020 7439 0747.
 ronniescotts.co.uk

Royal Festival Hall

See p192.

World Music

Africa Centre

38 King St WC2.
Map 13 C2.
Tel 020 7836 1973.

Barbican Centre

See p172.

Cargo

83 Rivington St EC2.
Map 7 C3.
Tel 020 7739 3440.

Cecil Sharp House

2 Regent's Park Rd NW1.
Map 4 D1.
Tel 020 7485 2206.

ICA

See p96.

Notting Hill Arts Club

21 Notting Hill Gate W11.
Map 9 C3.
Tel 020 7460 4459.

Queen Elizabeth Hall

Southbank Centre SE1.
Map 14 D4.
Tel 020 7960 4200.

Royal Festival Hall

See p192.

Salsa!

96 Charing Cross Rd WC2.
Map 13 B1.
Tel 020 7379 3277.

Clubs

93 Feet East

150 Brick Lane E1.
Map 8 E4.
Tel 020 7770 6006.

Annabel's

44 Berkeley Sq W1.
Map 12 E3.
Tel 020 7629 1096.

Bar Rumba

36 Shaftesbury Ave WC2.
Map 6 E2.
Tel 020 7287 6933.

Café de Paris

3 Coventry St W1.
Map 13 A3.
Tel 020 7734 7700.

Cargo

89 Rivington St EC2.
Map 7 C3.
Tel 020 7739 3440.

East Village

89 Great Eastern St EC2.
Map 7 C4.
Tel 020 7739 5173.

Egg

200 York Way N7.
Map 5 C1.
Tel 020 7871 7111.

Electric Brixton

Town Hall Parade,
Brixton Hill SW2.
Tel 020 7274 2290.

The Electric Carousel

215–217 Piccadilly W1.
Map 13 A3.
Tel 020 7734 3040.

Fabric

77a Charterhouse St EC1.
Map 6 F5.
Tel 020 7336 8898.

G-A-Y Bar

30 Old Compton St W1.
Map 13 A2.
Tel 020 7494 2756.

Guanabara

Drury Lane WC2.
Map 13 C1.
Tel 020 7242 8600.

Heaven

Under the Arches,
Villiers St WC2.
Map 13 C3.
Tel 020 7930 2020.

Ministry of Sound

103 Gaunt St SE1.
Tel 020 7740 8600.

Queen of Hoxton

1 Curtain Rd EC2.
Map 7 C3.
Tel 020 7422 0958.

Tattershall Castle

Victoria Embankment
SW1.
Map 13 C3.
Tel 020 7839 6548.

The Roof Gardens

99 Kensington
High St W8.
Map 10 D5.
Tel 020 7937 7994.

The Roxy

3–5 Rathbone
Place W1.
Map 13 A1.
Tel 020 7255 1098.

Royal Vauxhall Tavern

372 Kennington
Lane SE11.
Map 21 C3.
Tel 020 7820 1222.

The Village

81 Wardour St W1.
Map 13 A2.
Tel 020 7478 0530.

XOYO

32–37 Cowper St EC2.
Map 7 B4.
Tel 020 7608 2878.

Sport

The range of sports on offer in London is quite phenomenal. Should you feel the urge to watch a game of medieval tennis or go scuba-diving in the city centre, you've come to the right place. More likely, you'll just want to watch a football or rugby match, or play a set of tennis in a park. With far more public facilities than most European capitals, London is the place to enjoy cheap, accessible sport. To top it off, sports fan can relive the Olympics at the Queen Elizabeth Park, where venues built for the 2012 Games, including the Aquatics Centre and Olympic Stadium, are open to the public.

Athletics

Athletes will find a good choice of running tracks, often with free admission. **Linford Christie Stadium** has good facilities; **Regent's Park** is free; try also **Parliament Hill Fields**. For a sociable jog, meet the **Mornington Chasers** in Kentish Town, Camden, on Tuesdays at 7pm.

Cricket

Five-day test matches and one-day internationals are played in summer at **Lord's** (see p250) and the **Kia Oval**, near Vauxhall. Tickets for the first four days of tests and for one-day games are hard to get, but you may get in on the last day and see a thrilling finish. When Middlesex and Surrey play county games at these grounds, there are always seats.

Football (Soccer)

This is the most popular spectator sport in Britain, its season running from August to May, with matches at weekends and on weekday evenings. It is the most common topic of conversation in pubs, where games are often shown live on TV. Premier League and FA Cup games are frequently sold out in advance. London's top clubs include **Arsenal**, **Chelsea**, **West Ham** and **Tottenham Hotspur**.

Golf

There are no golf courses in central London, but a few are

scattered around the outskirts. The most accessible public courses are **Hounslow Heath**, **Chessington** (nine holes, train from Waterloo) and **Richmond Park** (two courses, with lessons available). If you didn't pack your clubs, sets can be hired at a reasonable price.

Greyhound Racing

At a night "down the dogs", you can follow the races on a screen in the bar, stand by the track or watch from the comfort of the restaurant (book in advance) at **Romford Stadium** or the **Greyhound Stadium** in Wimbledon.

Horse Racing

High-class flat racing in summer and steeplechasing in winter can be seen at **Ascot**, **Kempton Park** and **Sandown Park**, which are all less than an hour from central London by train. Britain's most famous flat race, the Derby, is run at **Epsom** in June.

Horse Riding

For centuries, fashionable riders have exercised their steeds in Hyde Park; **Ross Nye** will provide you with a horse so that you can follow a long tradition.

Ice-Skating

Ice-skaters should head for London's best-known rink, **Queens**. The most attractive ice rinks, open only in winter, are at **Somerset House** (see p121) and at the **Tower of London** (see pp158–61).

Rugby Union

International matches are played at **Twickenham Rugby Football Ground**. The season runs from September to April and you can watch "friendly" weekend games at local grounds. Top London teams **Saracens** and **Rosslyn Park** can be seen at their own grounds outside the centre of town.

Squash

Squash courts tend to be busy, so try to book at least two days ahead. Many sports centres have squash facilities and will hire out equipment. Try **Swiss Cottage Leisure Centre** and the **Oasis Sports Centre**.

Swimming

The best indoor pools include **Chelsea Sports Centre**, the **Oasis** and **Porchester Centre**; for outdoor swimming, try **Hampstead and Highgate Ponds** (two separate ponds for men and women and one mixed) and the Oasis. Out of town, the **London Aquatics Centre** at the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park (see pp254–5), purpose-built for the 2012 Games, has world-class facilities, a state-of-the-art gym and a full programme of activities.

Tennis

There are hundreds of tennis courts in London's public parks, most of them cheap to hire and easily reserved. It can be busy in the summer, so book your court two or three days ahead. You must supply your own racquet and balls. Good public tennis courts include those at **Holland Park** and **Parliament Hill**.

Tickets for the Centre Court of the **All England Lawn Tennis Club** at Wimbledon are hard to obtain – it is possibly easier to enter the tournament as a player. Try queueing overnight, or queue for return tickets after lunch on the day – for a bargain price, you can still enjoy a good four hours of tennis (see p61).

Traditional Sports

An old London tradition is the University Boat Race, held in March or April, when teams from Oxford and Cambridge row from Putney to Mortlake (*see p60*); a newer tradition is the London Marathon, which is run from Greenwich to The Mall at Westminster (*see p60*) on an April Sunday. You can watch croquet at **Dulwich Croquet Club** and medieval (real) tennis at **Queen's Club**.

Water Sports

There are facilities for a wide variety of water sports at the **Docklands Sailing & Watersports Centre**. You can choose from sports such as windsurfing, dinghy sailing, powerboating, waterskiing and canoeing. Rowing boats are also available for hire by the hour on the calmer, central London waters of the **Serpentine** in Hyde Park and **Regent's Park Lake**.

Working Out

Most sports centres have gymnasiums, work-out studios and health clubs. If you are a member of the YMCA, you'll be able to use the excellent facilities at the **Central YMCA Jubilee Hall Clubs** and the **Oasis Sports Centre** both offer a variety of aerobic classes, keep-fit and weight training. For those who have overdone it, the **Chelsea Sports Centre** has a sports injury clinic.

DIRECTORY

All England Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club

Church Rd, Wimbledon SW19. **Tel** 020 8944 1066.

Arsenal (Emirates) Stadium

Ashburton Grove N7. **Tel** 020 7619 5000.

Ascot Racecourse

Ascot, Berkshire. **Tel** 0844 346 3000.

Central YMCA

112 Great Russell St WC1. **Map** 13 B1. **Tel** 020 7343 1844.

Chelsea Football Club

Stamford Bridge SW6. **Tel** 0871 984 1955.

Chelsea Sports Centre

Chelsea Manor St SW3. **Map** 19 B3. **Tel** 020 7352 6985.

Chessington Golf Course

Garrison Lane, Surrey. **Tel** 020 8391 0948.

Docklands Sailing & Watersports Centre

235a Westferry Rd E14. **Tel** 020 7537 2626. **W** dswc.org

Dulwich Croquet Club

Giant Arches Rd, off Burbage Rd SE24. **W** dulwichcroquet.com

Epsom Racecourse

Epsom Downs, Surrey. **Tel** 01372 726 311.

Greyhound Stadium

Plough Lane, Wimbledon SW17. **Tel** 020 8946 8000.

Hampstead and Highgate Ponds

Mixed: off East Heath Rd NW3. **Map** 1 C4. Men's and Women's: Millfield Lane N6. **Map** 2 E3. **Tel** 020 7485 3873.

Holland Park Public Tennis Courts

1 Ilchester Place W8. **Map** 9 B5. **Tel** 020 7602 2226.

Hounslow Heath Golf Course

Staines Rd, Middlesex TW4. **Tel** 020 8570 5271.

Jubilee Hall Clubs

30 The Piazza, Covent Garden WC2. **Map** 13 C2. **Tel** 020 7836 4007.

Kempton Park

Sunbury on Thames, Middx. **Tel** 01932 782 292.

Kia Oval

Kennington Oval SE11. **Map** 22 D4. **Tel** 0844 375 1845.

Linford Christie Stadium

Du Cane Rd W12. **Tel** 020 3772 8260.

London Aquatics Centre

Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park E20. **Tel** 020 8536 3150.

Lord's Cricket Ground

St John's Wood NW8. **Map** 3 A3. **Tel** 020 7616 8000.

Mornington Chasers

W chaser.me.uk

Oasis Swimming Pool & Sports Centre

32 Endell St WC2. **Map** 13 B1. **Tel** 020 7831 1804.

Parliament Hill

Highgate Rd NW5. **Map** 2 E5. **Tel** 020 7332 3773.

Porchester Centre

Queensway W2. **Map** 10 D1. **Tel** 020 7792 2919.

Queen's Club (Real Tennis)

Palliser Rd W14. **Map** 17 A3. **Tel** 020 7385 3400.

Queens Ice Skating Club

17 Queensway W2. **Map** 10 E2. **Tel** 020 7229 0172.

Regent's Park and Lake

Regent's Park NW1. **Map** 3 C3. **Tel** 0300 061 2300, 020 7724 4069 (boat hire).

Richmond Park Golf

Roehampton Gate, Priory Lane SW15. **Tel** 020 8876 3205.

Romford Stadium

London Road, Essex RM7. **Tel** 01708 762 345.

Rosslyn Park Rugby

Priory Lane, Upper Richmond Rd SW15. **Tel** 020 8876 1879.

Ross Nye Stables

8 Bathurst Mews W2. **Map** 11 A2. **Tel** 020 7262 3791.

Sandown Park Racecourse

Esher, Surrey. **Tel** 01372 464 348.

Saracens Rugby Football Club

5 Vicarage Rd, Watford, Hertfordshire, WD1. **Tel** 01727 792 800.

Serpentine

Hyde Park W2. **Map** 11 B4. **Tel** 020 7262 1330 (boat hire).

Somerset House

Strand WC2. **Map** 14 D2. **Tel** 0844 847 1520.

Swiss Cottage Leisure Centre

Adelaide Rd NW3. **Tel** 020 7974 2012.

Tottenham Hotspur FC

White Hart Lane, 748 High Rd N17. **Tel** 0344 499 5000.

Twickenham Rugby Ground

Whitton Rd, Twickenham, Middlesex. **Tel** 020 8892 8877.

West Ham United

London Stadium, Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park E20. **Tel** 020 8458 2748.

CHILDREN'S LONDON

London is as much of a treat for children as it is for adults. Besides the traditional ceremonies and favourite famous buildings, there are plenty of attractions to avoid any cries of boredom. Museums and galleries are packed with workshops, hands-on experiments and interactive displays that are not only educational but also fun. The South Bank is lined with historic sights,

crowd-pleasing street performers and family-friendly restaurants. For entertainment away from the hustle and bustle, there is a plethora of royal parks, some only a few minutes from the city centre, as well as playgrounds, sports centres, farms and zoos. Best of all, there's no need to spend a fortune to have fun. For even more family-friendly ideas, see DK's *Family Guide to London*.

Practical Advice

A little planning is the key to a successful London outing with children. Check the opening hours of the places you plan to visit in advance and work out your journey carefully using the Tube map at the end of this book. If you are travelling with very young children, remember that there are very likely to be queues at the Underground stations or bus stops near popular sights. These will be long during peak hours, so buy your tickets, Travelcard or Oyster Card in advance (see p374). Children under 11 are entitled to free Tube, bus and DLR travel provided they are travelling with an adult who has a valid ticket or Oyster card. Child fares operate for all children between the ages of 11 and 15. Consider also swapping the Tube for a riverboat or even hopping aboard a double-decker sightseeing bus to take in some of the city's attractions



The Natural History Museum ranks among London's top children's attractions

while travelling from one area to another.

Visiting all the exhibitions and museums as a family is fairly inexpensive as the majority of London's principal museums have no entry charge. Many also offer complimentary or low-priced children's tours, trails, storytelling sessions and workshops. For those where you do have to pay, an annual

family season ticket, usually for two adults and up to four children, is available. In some cases you can even buy a family ticket that covers a group of museums.

There are always lots of organized activity programmes going on across London during the long summer school holidays (July to the beginning of September). For tips and ideas, check out *Time Out London's* "kids' hot list" for events happening in the capital at the time of your visit.

Be prepared for changeable weather: raincoats and umbrellas are essential, even in summer, when you may also need sunscreen. In winter, bring warm clothes and comfy shoes with non-slip soles.

Children and the Law

Only people over 18 can drink or buy alcohol. In restaurants, the law is a little more relaxed: those over 16 can drink wine or beer with their meal, but you still have to be over 18 to be served spirits. Many pubs, particularly gastropubs, welcome children, and some offer kids menus as well as a selection of toys or activity sheets. This is less common in more traditional "drinking" pubs where children may not necessarily be welcome. Those heading to the cinema should check the film classification; some are classed as unsuitable for children.

If you want to travel by car, you must use seat belts and children below 135 cm (4ft 5 inches) or under 12 years will need a special car seat.



Taking a break during a visit to the zoo

Eating Out with Children

The variety of cuisines available in the city is vast and there is plenty to suit kids with adventurous tastes: enjoy a trip to the orange-lantern-filled Chinatown, tuck into a *thali* at an authentic Indian curry house or share a selection of Spanish tapas, perfect for those wanting to try a little of everything.

They may not be the most imaginative choice, but chain restaurants are guaranteed to be a safe option for families, with high-chairs, easy-wipe surfaces, suitable good-value food, friendly staff and no exorbitant prices. Some places also provide activity sheets with puzzles to solve and pictures to colour in. A few of the best, all with branches across the city, include Gourmet Burger Kitchen (GBK) and Byron for good-quality burgers, and Ask, Pizza Express and Carluccio's for popular Italian meals. There's a branch of family favourite **Giraffe** at the Southbank Centre (*see below*). For more options, and more contact details for places mentioned here, see the Light Meals and Snacks section on pp308–11.

For a totally different and fun-filled family dining experience, **The Rainforest Café** is most certainly worth a visit. The restaurant, complete with gift shop, is designed as an Amazonian jungle with lifelike moving animals and the sounds of tropical thunderstorms. Those who want to make a night of it might enjoy a visit to **All Star Lanes**, an American-style diner complete with bowling alleys. The kids deal – main meal, drink, dessert and game of bowling – makes for a reasonably priced evening.



Combine a family-friendly meal with an evening's entertainment at All Star Lanes



All branches of the cheerful Giraffe chain have an excellent children's menu

Useful Addresses

All Star Lanes

Bloomsbury Place WC1.

Tel 020 7025 2676.

(One of several branches.)

Giraffe

Riverside Level 1, Southbank Centre SE1.

Tel 020 7042 6900.

(One of several branches.)

The Rainforest Café

20 Shaftesbury Avenue W1D.

Tel 020 3326 6390.

In England it is illegal to smoke in a vehicle carrying anyone under 18.

The South Bank

With a walkway that stretches virtually unbroken along the Thames from Tower Bridge (*see p157*) to the London Eye (*see p193*), the South Bank, with its many attractions, is the perfect destination for families seeking a fun day out. It is also conveniently sandwiched between London Bridge and London Waterloo train stations.

By London Bridge, bustling Borough Market (*see p180*) makes a perfect stop for lunch or a snack. Worth a visit are two very different ships, both moored nearby: HMS *Belfast* (*see p187*) and the replica of the *Golden Hinde II* (*see p179*).

A little further along the river, Shakespeare's Globe (*see p181*) has monthly children's workshops during theatre

season and the towering Tate Modern (*see pp182–5*) offers art trails and challenges for kids.

Near to the London Eye, street performers entertain the crowds and there is a weekly food market behind Royal Festival Hall (*see p311*). The London Aquarium (*see p192*) provides close-up encounters with sea life from starfish to sharks. The London Dungeon (*see p192*)

takes older kids with a strong stomach on a grisly tour of the most bloodthirsty events in British history.

The Southbank Centre itself (*see pp190–91*) is home to the National Theatre, the British Film Institute (BFI) and the Royal Festival Hall. The centre offers a huge programme of events all through the year, as well as family-friendly restaurants.



The London Eye, providing views across the city

Shopping

Don't miss **Hamleys** toy shop or **Harrods'** Toy Kingdom, both of which have shelves of toys, books and games. Kids will be just as awestruck at the smaller but specialized **Benjamin Pollock's Toy Shop**. Bookshops such as Waterstones and Foyles have excellent children's sections and often organize readings and signings by children's authors.

For souvenirs, there are many shops and stands all over London, which are great for buying children a memento from their trip. Museum gift shops are filled with toys, clothes and stationery.

Useful Numbers

Benjamin Pollock's Toy Shop

44 The Market, Covent Garden Piazza WC2E. Tel 020 7379 7866.

Foyles

107 Charing Cross Road WC2H 0DT. Tel 020 7437 5660. (One of several branches.)

Hamleys

188–196 Regent St W1. Tel 0870 333 2455.

Harrods

87–135 Brompton Road SW1. Tel 020 7730 1234.

Waterstones

203/206 Piccadilly W1J 9HD. Tel 020 7851 2400. (One of several branches.)



A familiar face at Hamleys toy shop



Letting off steam before visiting the nation's treasure house, the British Museum

Museums and Galleries

The museums and galleries of London are so packed full of interesting artifacts and interactive displays that it's unlikely you'll have to drag reluctant children around an assortment of lifeless, stuffy exhibits.

The Science Museum (*see pp210–11*), with hundreds of working models, is one of London's best attractions for children – its hands-on galleries in the basement, including the much-loved Launch Pad, will keep them amused for hours. Equally popular is the Natural History Museum (*see pp206–7*), which explores life on earth with dinosaur models, a giant whale and an examination of the human body. Both museums hold sleepovers once a month.

The British Museum (*see pp128–31*) has fabulous treasures from all over the world, including the fascinating Egyptian collection, and the

Horniman Museum (*see p254*) has an eclectic array of objects including a collection of taxidermy and skeletons.

On the north side of Tower Bridge is the Tower of London (*see pp158–61*), with suits of armour built for knights and monarchs and, of course, the Crown Jewels. Armoury and weapons, including aircraft and the tools of modern warfare, can be seen at the National Army Museum (*see p201*) and the Imperial War Museum (*see pp194–5*). At the London Transport Museum (*see p118*), kids can dress up in historical costumes and play on real buses and trams in the family play-zone, "All Aboard". The V&A Museum of Childhood (*see p252*), the children's branch of the V&A located in east London, has a fascinating collection of children's toys from throughout history.

Madame Tussauds (*see p228*), the world-famous wax museum, lets kids get up close to their celebrity heroes.

Children's Theatre

London is home to a plethora of theatres, including some for children. **The Polka Theatre** offers the best range of children's theatre, and has workshops during the school holidays. **The Unicorn Theatre** is also highly acclaimed, and the **Little Angel**



Theatre and the Puppet Barge, moored in Little Venice, specialize in puppet shows. For older kids who aspire to the stage, the Royal National Theatre (*see p192*), the Royal Opera House (*see p119*), Sadler's Wells (*see p346*) and the Theatre Royal Drury Lane (*see p119*) offer tours.

During **Kids Week**, which runs throughout August, kids aged under 16 go free at participating theatres when accompanied by a fee-paying adult.

Useful Numbers

Kids Week

www.kidsweek.co.uk

Little Angel Theatre

Tel 020 7226 1787.

www.littleangeltheatre.com

Polka Theatre

Tel 020 8543 4888.

www.polkatheatre.com

Puppet Barge

Tel 020 7249 6876.

www.puppetbarge.com

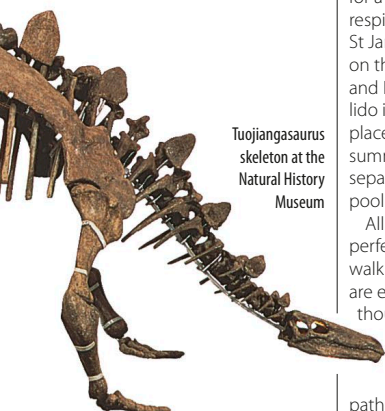
Unicorn Theatre

Tel 020 7645 0560.

www.unicorntheatre.com



Puppets at the Little Angel Theatre



Tuojiangosaurus skeleton at the Natural History Museum



Giraffes at London Zoo, in Regent's Park

The Great Outdoors

London is fortunate to have many parks and open spaces (*see pp52–5*). Most local parks will include conventional playgrounds for children, many with modern, safe equipment. Young children will particularly enjoy the Diana Memorial Playground in Kensington Gardens (*see p223*), which features a huge Peter Pan-inspired wooden pirate ship for kids to play on and explore. Coram's Fields (*see p133*) in Bloomsbury is another delightful park, with a farmyard, paddling pool and sports pitches.

Animal-lovers will enjoy a trip to the Children's Zoo in Battersea Park (*see p257*) (coincide a visit with feeding time) or to London Zoo and Regent's Canal (*see p231*). The canal is also home to Camley Street Natural Park, a beautiful reserve that has butterflies, bats and birds. Vauxhall City Farm has kids' clubs and riding lessons available for all abilities.

The city's parks are ideal for a picnic lunch and bit of respite. Feed the ducks at St James's Park or hire a boat on the lakes at Regent's Park and Hyde Park. The Serpentine lido in Hyde Park is the perfect place to enjoy a swim in the summertime and there is a separate area and paddling pool for children.

All of the large parks make perfect places for a good walk or cycle ride and bicycles are easy to hire (*see p375*) – though cyclists should be sure to watch out for pedestrians and remember that some paths may be out of bounds.

Sports

For sports enthusiasts, there is plenty to see and do across the capital. Sports centres (*see pp350–51*) often have special clubs to occupy children of every age. Battersea Park Millennium Arena is one of many parks that has an athletics track and sports facilities; most parks also have tennis courts available for hire.

One of London's greatest sporting facilities is the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park (*see pp254–5*), which was built for the Games in 2012. It is now home to a huge range of activities: go for a swim in the world-famous Aquatics Centre, play a game of hockey or climb the wall in the Tumbling Bay play area. Older children are also able to cycle inside the Velodrome, or attempt the mountain bike course in the Lee Valley VeloPark.

Other sporting must-visits in London include Twickenham Rugby Football Ground (*see p351*), Lord's Cricket Ground (*see p250*), the Wimbledon Lawn Tennis Museum (*see p255*) and Chelsea Football Stadium (*see p351*). All are open most of the year and offer exciting behind-the-scenes tours.



Sports facilities and green spaces at the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park



LONDON



SURVIVAL GUIDE

Practical Information	358–367
Getting to London	368–373
Getting Around London	374–381

ON BUS

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

London has responded well to the demands of modern tourism. The range of facilities on offer to travellers, from ATMs and medical clinics to boutique hotels and late-night transport, continues to expand. Whether you find London an expensive city will depend on the exchange rate between the pound and your own currency. It is known for high hotel prices, but even here there

are good mid-range and budget options (*see pp284–7*). You need not spend a lot on food, if you choose carefully and make the most of the range London has to offer; for the price of a single meal at some West End restaurants, you could eat enjoyably for several days (*see pp308–11*). The following tips will help you make the most of your visit.



Crossing the Millennium Bridge

When to Go

London's weather is changeable, but in general it is chilly from November to February, and warmest from June to August (*see p63*). It can rain at any time of year. Extremes of temperature are rare, so there is no time of year when London closes down and everyone goes on holiday. Many concerts and exhibitions take place in winter and spring, but there are plenty of events during the summer too, such as the BBC Proms and open-air theatre seasons (*see pp60–63*).

Visas and Passports

Citizens of European Union countries may enter the UK for an unlimited period with a passport or national identity card. Visitors from the USA, Canada, Australia and New Zealand need only a full passport for tourist and business stays of up to six months, but on arrival they must fill in an Immigration Card, which is given out on incoming flights. Citizens of some countries may require a visa; details can be found on the **UK Visas and Immigration** (UKVI) pages of the

UK government website, gov.uk. The UK is not signed up to the Schengen open-borders agreement operated by most EU countries. Hence, visitors arriving from France or any other Schengen country must still pass through immigration checks when entering the UK.

Travelers from the USA, Canada, Australia, New Zealand and a few other non-EU countries entering the UK for tourism, as well as business or study trips of less than six months, don't need a visa, but the UKVI advises that you bring the documents needed to apply for a visa, to show to officers at the UK border (more details on UKVI web pages). Citizens of most other non-EU countries will need a visa depending on the reason for the trip, in keeping with the points-based immigration system.

Travel Safety

Visitors can get up-to-date travel safety information from the **Foreign and Commonwealth Office** in the UK, the **State Department** in the US and the **Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade** in Australia.

Customs Information

EU residents may carry any amount of goods between EU countries without paying duty, as long as the goods are for their personal use. Customs officers may question whether large amounts of any item are genuinely for your own use.

Examples of amounts usually accepted are: up to 800 cigarettes and up to 90 litres of wine. For travellers arriving from outside the EU, stricter allowances apply. Visitors not resident in the EU can reclaim the Value Added Tax (VAT) on many goods when they leave Britain, but note that the items must have been bought from a shop operating the VAT Retail Export Scheme. Ask the retailer for the correct form, which has details on how to obtain your refund; these can also be found on the "Tax-free Shopping" page of the gov.uk website.

Tourist Information and Tours

Visit London is the city's central tourism service and is a key source of information. Tourist Information Centres can be found all over London (www.visitlondon.com has a full list). The City of London Information Centre, located by St Paul's Cathedral, provides leaflets on attractions, tours, museums, walks and

public transport. Others can be found at main rail stations. The centres sell travelcards and **London Pass** (*see p359*) discount cards, provide currency exchange and distribute Visit London's handy free monthly magazine, *London Planner*.

For comprehensive listings information – including art, cinema, music, theatre and nightlife – visit the websites of **LondonNet** and **Time Out London**, London's leading





Double-decker sightseeing boat on the Thames

listings magazine. Guided tours are an effective way to explore the city; a trip in an open-top double-decker bus makes a good introduction. **Original London Sightseeing Tours** and **Big Bus Tours** are the main companies offering hop-on, hop-off services, with tickets valid for 24 or 48 hours. Other tour companies include **London Walks**, which offers over 40 different routes, and **London Duck Tours**, which take in the sights on road and by river. To find a private tour guide for a specific interest, contact the **Association of Professional Tourist Guides**. For river cruises and commuter services, see *page 65*. The major sights are often crowded and have long queues. Museums and galleries get particularly busy at weekends and on late-opening nights, so try to visit midweek.

Admission Prices

Admission to the main collections of London's major public museums and galleries is free, but you will pay to see temporary exhibits. Private museums and other attractions have admission charges; they vary greatly, but for adults most are between £5 and £15. There are often reduced prices for seniors, students and children.

If you aim to do lots of sightseeing, you can cut costs with a **London Pass**, a card that gives you free entry and fast-track admission at many attractions. Cards are valid for 1, 2, 3, 6 or 10 days and can be

combined with a Travelcard. A London Pass can be bought in advance from www.visitlondon.com and mailed to your home or collected from a tourist centre.

Opening Hours

Opening times for individual sights are listed in the *Area by Area* section of this book. Core visiting times are 10am to 5pm or 6pm daily; last admission is usually 1 hour before closing time. Most of the big museums have at least one late-opening day each week. Opening hours are often shorter on Sundays and public holidays. Some smaller attractions are closed on Mondays.

Social Customs and Etiquette

Londoners are known for queueing – whether for theatre tickets, taxis or takeaways. Things aren't quite as genteel as they used to be, but in general, anyone barging in will still encounter frosty glares.

Casual clothing is accepted in most restaurants, and only a few upscale establishments still require men to wear a jacket and tie.

The religious pattern of London reflects the city's huge ethnic diversity: all of the world's major faiths are represented here.

Smoking is forbidden in all public indoor spaces. Some hotels still designate bedrooms for smokers, but it's best to double check when booking.

Tipping

It is usual to tip in restaurants, hotels, hairdressers and taxis, but not for bar service in pubs. Many restaurants add a service charge – usually 12.5 per cent – to the bill, in which case an extra tip is not necessary. Be wary of places that add a service charge, then encourage you to add a "gratuity" when you pay by credit card. In taxis, tip around 10 per cent; for hotel porters, £1 is usually sufficient.

Travellers with Disabilities

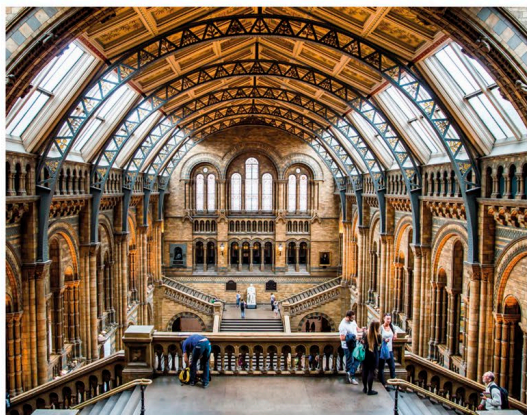
Access to transport and attractions, and services for wheelchair users and others with mobility problems is continually improving. The Visit London website has a guide to access and services. **Transport for London** (TfL) produces a range of accessibility guides that can be downloaded from the TfL website or obtained free of charge by completing the order form on the website's "Transport Accessibility" pages. **Artsline** gives information on facilities at cultural events and venues.

Nearly all London buses have wheelchair-access ramps, and all licensed taxis and some minicabs are wheelchair-accessible. The task of improving access to the entire Underground network is ongoing and TfL maps show accessible stations. Most museums and theatres have accessible facilities, but hotels with fully adapted rooms are rare.

Disabled drivers with a blue badge allowing free parking should note that in four London boroughs – the City, Westminster, Kensington & Chelsea, and Camden – it allows you to park only in designated blue-badge bays.



London bus with ramp for easy wheelchair access



The Natural History Museum, a great day out for all the family

Travelling with Children

Under Transport for London's "Kids Go Free" scheme, travel is free on buses, the Underground, DLR and trains within London for all children aged under 11 accompanied by an adult (up to four children per adult). Children aged 11–15 can also travel free, with or without an adult, on all buses, and for reduced prices on the Underground and DLR (*see pp374*); the Zip Oyster 11–15 Identity Card can be ordered online and collected at a tourist information centre on arrival in London. See the Visit London and Transport for London websites for more detail.

Most museums and attractions have reduced prices for children under 11 and at many places entry is free for under-5s. Many also sell good-value family tickets. Plenty of restaurants welcome children, and a number of hotels have family rooms; the Novotel chain represents particularly good value for families.

London is a child-friendly city. A huge variety of entertainment and activities is on offer, and many museums have special kids' programmes (*see pp352–5*). There are dozens of parks, many of them with playground facilities. The Visit London website has useful pages on "Things to do in London with Kids". *Time Out London* has a "Kids" section covering current attractions.

Senior Travellers

Over-60s can enjoy reduced admission prices at most museums and attractions. You may be asked to show photo ID. Free travel on the Tube, rail and ferry services is only available to residents but most bus passes can be used across the city.

Gay and Lesbian Travellers

London has a huge and diverse gay scene catering to most tastes – with the scene focusing around Soho. It's hard to keep track of everything going on, but the **QX** magazine and website, **Pink News** website and *Time Out London* have up-to-date listings and information.

Travelling on a Budget

London can be a very expensive city, but sightseeing costs can be reduced with the London Pass (*see pp359*), and remember that admission to London's largest museums is free. To get around town by public transport,

always buy a Travelcard rather than single tickets; for trips out of town, the coach is much cheaper than the train, especially when booked in advance.

Discounted theatre tickets can be bought at the **TKTS** booth in Leicester Square, and many theatres have cheap-ticket nights.

London has plenty of budget restaurants and cafés, and even quite grand restaurants offer accessibly priced lunch menus. As well as dorm-style hostels, there are no-frills budget hotels with private rooms, some ensuite, for under £50 (*see pp286–7*). There's also a growing trend for spare-room lets and "couch surfing" via the **Airbnb** website.

Students pay lower admission to many exhibitions, and holders of an **ISIC** (International Student Identity Card) or **IYTC** (International Youth Travel Card) are eligible for a range of other discounts. A **Hostelling International** card is also handy for lower rates at hostels and other discounts.

Electricity

The voltage in London is 240V AC, and plugs have three square pins. Visitors will need plug adaptors for appliances, and with any older North American 110V equipment you may also need a transformer.

Conversion Chart

Officially the metric system is used, but imperial measures are still common.

Imperial to metric

1 inch = 2.5 centimetres
1 foot = 30 centimetres
1 mile = 1.6 kilometres
1 ounce = 28 grams
1 pound = 454 grams
1 pint = 0.6 litre
1 gallon = 4.6 litres

Metric to imperial

1 millimetre = 0.04 inch
1 centimetre = 0.4 inch
1 metre = 3 feet 3 inches
1 kilometre = 0.6 mile
1 gram = 0.04 ounce
1 kilogram = 2.2 pounds



International Student Identity Card (ISIC)

Time

London is on Greenwich Mean Time (GMT) during the winter months, five hours ahead of Eastern Standard Time and ten hours behind Sydney. From late March to late October, clocks are set forward 1 hour to British Summer Time (equivalent to Central European Time). At any time of year, you can check the correct time by dialing 123 on a BT landline to contact the 24-hour automated Speaking Clock service (note that there is a charge for this service).

Responsible Tourism

London has set itself ambitious targets for improving the urban environment and reducing energy use. **Thames 21**, for example, is an environmental charity which involves the local community in schemes to help keep the river Thames clean and clear.

The **Green Tourism Goldstar** badges are awarded to businesses in the UK that meet the highest environmental standards. These

standards ensure that each business is committed to sustainable tourism and dedicated to minimizing its damage to the environment. See the website for green accommodation.

Recycling bins, which separate recyclable materials and general waste, are widely used and many shoppers carry reusable cloth bags to avoid 5p charges for plastic bags, which is fairly standard in supermarkets and shops.



Green Tourism badge

DIRECTORY

Visas and Passports

UK Visas and Immigration

gov.uk/government/organisations/uk-visas-and-immigration

Embassies and Consulates

Australian High Commission

Australia House, Strand WC2. **Map** 13 C2.

Tel 020 7379 4334.

uk.embassy.gov.au

Canadian High Commission

Canada House, Trafalgar Square SW1. **Map** 13 B3.

Tel 020 7004 6000.

canadainternational.gc.ca

New Zealand High Commission

80 Haymarket SW1.

Map 13 A3. **Tel** 020 7930

8422. mfat.govt.nz

United States Embassy

Nine Elms Lane SW8.

Map 12 D2.

Tel 020 7499 9000.

uk.usembassy.gov

Travel Safety

UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office

gov.uk/government/organisations/foreign-commonwealth-office

US Department of State

travel.state.gov/

Australia Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

dfat.gov.au/smarttraveller.gov.au/

Tourist Information

Association of Professional Tour Guides

Tel 020 7611 2545.

guidelondon.org.uk

Big Bus Tours

Tel 020 7808 6753.

eng.bigbustours.com

City of London Information Centre

St. Paul's Churchyard EC4.

Map 15 A2.

cityoflondon.gov.uk

London Duck Tours

londonducktours.co.uk

co.uk

LondonNet

londonnet.co.uk

London Pass

londonpass.com

London Walks

walks.com

Original London Sightseeing Tour

theoriginaltour.com

Time Out London

timeout.com/london

Transport for London

tfl.gov.uk

Visit London

visitlondon.com

Religious Services

Anglican

(Episcopalian)

St Paul's Cathedral EC4.

Map 15 A2.

stpauls.co.uk

Catholic

Westminster Cathedral,

Victoria St SW1. **Map** 20

F1. westminstercathedral.org.uk

Evangelical Alliance

UK Resource Centre,

176 Copenhagen St N1.

Map 6 D1.

eauk.org

Jewish

Liberal Jewish

Synagogue, 28 St John's

Wood Rd NW8.

Map 3 A3. ljs.org

United Synagogue (Orthodox)

735 High Rd N12.

theus.org.uk

Muslim

Islamic Cultural Centre,

146 Park Rd NW8.

Map 3 B3.

iccuk.org

Travellers with Disabilities

Artsline

artsline.org.uk

Transport for London

Tel 0343 222 1234

(24 hours).

tfl.gov.uk

Gay & Lesbian Travellers

QX

qxmagazine.com

Pink News

pinknews.co.uk

Travelling on a Budget

pinknews.co.uk

Airbnb

airbnb.com

Hostelling International

hihostels.com

ISIC (International Student Identity Card)

isic.org

TKTS (Discount Theatre Tickets)

Leicester Square WC2.

Map 13 B2. tkts.co.uk

Responsible Tourism

Thames 21

thames21.org.uk

Green Tourism

Tel 01738 632 162.

green-tourism.com

Personal Security and Health

London is a large city which, like any other, has had its share of urban problems. It has also been a terrorist target, and London life is sometimes disrupted by security alerts. Nearly all of these turn out to be false alarms, but they should always be taken seriously. Never hesitate to approach one of London's many police officers for assistance – they are trained to help the public with problems.



Mounted police

Police

If you are robbed, or are the victim of any other kind of crime, report it to the police as soon as possible. Patrolling police officers are generally fairly easy to find in central London, but if you cannot find one, call or go to the nearest police station – these are listed on the **Metropolitan Police** website; alternatively, your hotel should be able to advise. Note that the **City of London Police** is a separate force, with its own website. Police stations are also shown on the Street Finder maps towards the end of this book (pp382–419).

When you report a crime, police will take a statement from you, and you will need to list any lost or stolen items.

What to be Aware of

It is unlikely that your stay in London will be blighted by crime. Even in run-down parts of town, the risk of having your pocket picked or bag stolen is not particularly great. It is actually more likely to happen in the middle of heaving shopping crowds in areas like Oxford Street or Camden Lock, or perhaps on a packed Underground platform.

As in any big city, the risk of being a victim of street crime can be further reduced by following a few sensible precautions. Make sure your possessions are adequately insured before you travel. Do not carry all your valuables around with you, but take only as much cash as you need, and leave the rest in a hotel safe or a locked suitcase.

Avoid poorly lit or isolated places like backstreets, parks and unstaffed railway stations at night. To be extra careful, try to travel around in a group at night.

In crowds, be aware of anyone standing especially close. Keep bags zipped up; keep a hand on your bag when walking along; and never leave bags unattended in any public place – they may be stolen or considered a security threat. When you sit at a table, especially outdoors, always keep your bag within reach and in sight – preferably on your lap or on the table – and never leave it on the ground or hanging on the back of a chair.

In an Emergency

In a serious emergency, you can call 999 – or the European emergency number 112 – to summon police, fire or ambulance services. Note that this is only for genuine emergencies, so

if your problem is less serious, it is better to contact a police station or hospital directly.

Lost and Stolen Property

Although you should report thefts, or loss of any property, to the police, be warned that it's unlikely that they will be able to recover any of it for you. However, they will give you a copy of your police statement, which you will need to make an insurance claim.

If you lose anything on buses, Underground and DLR trains or in taxis (black cabs), it should eventually reach the

Transport for London Lost Property Office

You can also enquire about lost items online, through the TfL website (under "Useful Contacts"). It will usually take a few days for items to reach the office, so if you notice the loss the same day, try to enquire about it at the station nearest to where you lost it, or at the nearest police station.

Items lost on riverboats or

in minicabs should be held by the individual companies. For property lost on national rail services, you will need to contact the individual trainline operator.

Hospitals and Pharmacies

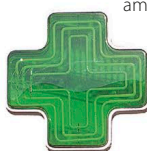
All European Union nationals with a European Health Insurance Card (EHIC), as well as citizens of some other countries with special agreements with the UK (Australia and New Zealand among them), can obtain

free treatment from the British **National Health Service (NHS)**.

Visitors from other non-EU countries should have full medical cover as part of their travel insurance, and if necessary make use of an NHS or private hospital (such as



Traffic police officer



Pharmacy sign



Typical London police car



London ambulance



London fire engine

attention, ask your hotel to recommend a doctor, or go to the nearest NHS health centre (doctor's surgery) or hospital Accident & Emergency (A&E) department. Not all hospitals have A&E departments, but those that do are listed on the NHS and Visit London websites, and in local phone books. In many cases, the simplest thing may be to call **NHS 111**, a free advice service for non-emergencies. If you have a dental problem, you can also call NHS 111 for addresses of emergency dentists. Dental treatment through the NHS is not entirely free, so consider private treatment (again,

hotels should be able to recommend a dentist) and claim on your insurance policy.

Pharmacies (also known as chemists) are plentiful around London, and pharmacists are trained to dispense medications

and advise on ailments. Some medicines are only available with a prescription. It is worth noting that prescription drugs are not free even if you are entitled to NHS treatment; if you are not, you will be charged the full price, and so will need to make an insurance claim.

Boots is the largest chain of pharmacies in the UK. Most pharmacies are closed on Sundays, but those listed in the Directory, below, have extended hours.

Travel and Health Insurance

All visitors to London should have a comprehensive travel insurance policy providing adequate cover for all eventualities including potential legal expenses, theft, lost luggage or other property, accidents, cancellations, travel delays and medical cover. Even if you are entitled to use the NHS for medical needs, it can be a good idea to have private medical insurance included too, since this may allow you to get quicker treatment with fewer formalities. Your insurance company should provide you with a 24-hour emergency number in case of need.

Medical Express) on a paying basis. In case of emergency, anyone – EU or non-EU – will be treated free of charge.

If you have an accident or other problem needing medical

DIRECTORY

In an Emergency

Police, Fire and Ambulance services

Tel 999 or 112.

Calls are free.

Police

City of London Police

Tel 101 (non-emergencies).

www.cityoflondon.police.uk

Metropolitan Police

Tel 0300 123 1212.

www.met.police.uk

West End Central Police Station

27 Savile Row W1.

Map 12 F2.

Tel 020 7437 1212.

Lost Property

Transport for London Lost Property Office

200 Baker St NW1.

Map 3 C5.

Tel 0343 222 1234.

Open 8:30am–4:30pm

Mon–Fri. www.tfl.gov.uk

Health Services

Medical Express (Private)

117A Harley St, W1.

Tel 0800 9800 700.

www.medicaexpressclinic.co.uk

NHS

www.nhs.uk

To locate a hospital, look under “Find and choose services”.

NHS 111

Tel 111

(24-hr health information and nurse-led advice).

University College Hospital

Accident and Emergency, 235 Euston Rd NW1.

Map 5 A4.

Tel 0845 155 5000.

Dentists

Forest & Ray 24-Hour Emergency Dental Clinic

8F Gilbert Place WC1.

Map 13 B1.

Tel 020 3199 0178.

www.24hour-emergency-dentist.org.uk

Late-Opening Pharmacies

Millennium Pharmacy

68 Brixton Rd SW9

Map 22 E5. Tel 020 7840

0465. Open 7am–11pm

Mon–Sat, 1–5pm Sun.

Boots the Chemist

302 Regent St W1.

Map 13 A3.

Tel 020 7637 9418.

Open 7:45am–9pm

Mon–Fri, 9am–7pm Sat, noon–6pm Sun.

www.boots.com

Superdrug

508–520 Oxford St W1.

Map 11 C2. Tel 020 7629

1649. Open 7am–11pm

Mon–Fri, 8am–10pm Sat, 1–7pm Sun.

www.superdrug.com

Banking and Local Currency

Visitors to London will find that there are plenty of national and foreign banks lining the city's high streets, and they usually offer the best rates of exchange. Privately owned bureaux de change have variable exchange rates and commissions – some charge more for changing smaller amounts of money – but they do stay open long after the banks have closed.



A typical high street bank ATM, familiarly known as a cashpoint or "hole-in-the-wall"

Banks and Bureaux de Change

Banking hours vary. The minimum opening hours for all banks are 9:30am–3:30pm Mon–Fri, but many branches now stay open till 5 or 5:30pm, especially in central London; some also open on Saturdays from about 10am to 4pm. All banks are closed on Sundays and public holidays (see p63). The commission charged on currency exchange will vary from bank to bank.

When banks are closed, there are plenty of other facilities for changing cash across the city. You will find bureaux de change

at airports, main rail stations, in large stores, and at many other locations. **Chequepoint**, **Thomas Cook** and **Travellex** are some of the larger companies. The central London (Piccadilly) branch of **Money Corporation** is open 24 hours daily.

Credit Cards and Travel Money

Major credit cards such as Visa and MasterCard, and debit cards such as Delta, Maestro and Cirrus, are widely accepted all over London. Fewer businesses accept American Express cards.

British credit and debit cards operate on a chip-and-PIN security system; you must enter your PIN into a card reader to validate the purchase. If you have a North American or other card that does not use chip-and-PIN technology, your card will have to be swiped and you'll need to sign a slip.

Contactless technology is fast being adopted across the capital, notably in its public transport system, enabling small payments (no more than £30) to be made quickly using

DIRECTORY

Bureaux de Change

All have branches across London.

Chequepoint
550 Oxford St, W1. Tel 020 7724 6127. Open 24-hrs daily.
w chequepoint.com

Money Corporation
18 Piccadilly, W1. Map 13 A3. Tel 08456 210 210.
Open 8am–11pm Mon–Sat, 9am–10:30pm Sun.
w moneycorp.com

Thomas Cook
Tel 0845 246 4353.
w thomascookmoney.com

Travellex
Tel 0845 872 7627.
w travellex.co.uk

Lost Credit Cards

American Express
Tel 01273 696 933.

MasterCard
Tel 0800 964 767.

Visa
Tel 0800 891 725.

a contactless-enabled card or mobile device.

Another useful way to carry money is with a prepaid money card. Like a debit card, you can use it in shops and restaurants, and withdraw money from cash machines. It is easy to top up the cards online or with an app. Money cards can be obtained at the post office or ordered online; one example is the Travellex MasterCard Cash Passport.

Main High Street Banks

The businesses whose logos are shown below are some of the UK's major high-street banks, with branches all over London. Many have currency-exchange facilities, but proof of identity may be required.



National Westminster logo



Santander logo



Barclays Bank logo



HSBC logo

ATMs

There are ATM cash machines (also known as cashpoints), from which you can obtain cash with any of the major credit or debit cards, at all bank branches, many post offices and many other locations, such as stations. The cards accepted by each ATM are indicated on the machine, which usually gives instructions in several

languages. Avoid using the independent ATMs found in some small shops, as they often carry expensive extra charges. Avoid using ATMs in dark streets at night, and don't use an ATM if any part of it looks damaged or as if it has been tampered with, especially the card slot. Be aware of anyone standing close to you when using an ATM, and shield the

keypad with your hand as you enter your PIN.

Currency

Britain's currency is the pound sterling (£), which is divided into 100 pence (p). Since there are no exchange controls in Britain, there is no limit to how much cash you may import or export. Some large stores in London

accept payments in US dollars and Euros, but often at a poor exchange rate.



English banknotes of all denominations feature the Queen's head on one side

Banknotes

English notes used in the UK are £5, £10, £20 and £50. Scotland has its own notes which, despite being legal tender throughout the UK, are often accepted with reluctance.



£20 note

£50 note

£10 note

£5 note

Coins

Coins in circulation are £2, £1, 50p, 20p, 10p, 5p, 2p and 1p (they are shown here slightly smaller than actual size). They all have the Queen's head on the other side.



2 pounds (£2)



1 pound (£1)



50 pence (50p)



20 pence (20p)



10 pence (10p)



5 pence (5p)



2 pence (2p)



1 penny (1p)

Communication and Media

London is a hub of news organizations, book and magazine publishers, and television networks (though these last are steadily moving to other parts of the country). Visitors benefit from an efficient and inexpensive telecommunications system.

Though public telephones can still be found around the city – including the famous, now largely defunct, red telephone box – the mobile phone is king and there is a plethora of mobile networks and phone shops to meet demand. Visitors can stay connected via the free Wi-Fi readily available all over the capital.

International and Local Telephone Calls

All London landline telephone numbers have 11 digits and begin with the code 020. Phone numbers in central London continue with 7 and in outer London with 8, although some business numbers continue with 3. If you are calling from another London landline, you do not need to dial the 020, but only the remaining eight digits. Every other part of Britain has its own area code, beginning with 01 or 02.

Whenever possible, avoid making calls from hotels – above all, long-distance – as most add hefty surcharges, and some even charge for freephone lines. There are several special-rate numbers within the UK. Phone numbers beginning 03 are low-cost numbers used mostly by public bodies, such as the police. All 0800 or 0808 numbers are free to call from UK landlines (but not from mobile phones). 0844, 0845, 0870 and 0871 numbers are reduced-rate lines that are used by many companies and organizations for information services. Numbers beginning 09 are premium-rate and so particularly expensive.

To call Britain from abroad, dial 00 44, but then omit the initial zero from the UK area code. So to call the London number 020 7123 4567 from abroad, you would dial 00 44 20 7123 4567. To call abroad from London, dial 00 and then the usual country code (for example, Australia: 61, USA and Canada: 1).

Mobile Phones

All UK mobile phone numbers begin with 07. Calling a mobile from a landline is considerably more expensive than calling another landline.

There is a very high level of mobile ownership in London and signal coverage is good all over the city. UK mobiles use the European-standard 900 and 1900 MHz frequencies,

so mobiles from other European countries work so long as they have their roaming facility enabled. North American and Asian cell phones will not operate unless they have a tri- or quad-band facility (which is increasingly standard on current phones). New laws mean that data roaming charges throughout Europe have been drastically reduced, and will be abolished by June 2017, so it is now cheaper than ever for Europeans to use their own phones while in London.

If you are visiting from outside the EU and anticipate using the phone a great deal, it may well be more economical to buy a cheap “pay-as-you-go” British mobile (a basic phone can cost as little as £10) from one of the main local providers such as **O2**, **EE** or **Vodafone**, all of which have shops all over the city.

Public Telephones

Though few and far between, BT public phoneboxes can still be found on the city’s streets and in every railway station.

Some are the old-style red ones, others are much more modern in appearance; whichever type, they generally have the same technology inside. You can pay with coins, or by credit or debit card.

The minimum call cost is 60p for the first 30 minutes to a UK landline; and 10p for each 10 minutes after that. For a short call, use 10p or 20p pieces, as payphones only return unused coins. For credit-card calls, the minimum charge can be anything from £1.20 to £6.50.



Old BT
phonebox



Modern BT
phonebox

Useful Dialling Codes

- The area code for London is 020.
- Phone numbers in central London start with 7 or 3, and in outer areas with 8. The 020 prefix must be used if dialling from outside these two areas.
- British Telecom directory enquiries is 118 500.
- If you have any problems contacting a number, call the operator on 100.
- To make an international call, dial 00 followed by the country code (USA and Canada: 1; Australia: 61; New Zealand: 64), the area code and the number. (To the UK from abroad, the country code is 44.) The international operator number is 155 (freephone).
- In an emergency, dial 999 or 112. All emergency calls are free.



British Telecom logo

Internet and Email

Internet access is very easy to find in London. Public libraries, tourist information centres and some other public buildings have free terminals. Most hotels and a growing number of B&Bs and hostels offer Wi-Fi access. Charges are increasingly rare. There are also many free Wi-Fi hotspots across London, in arts centres, cafés, restaurants and pubs, so using your personal devices is easy. The Cloud is a free Wi-Fi service provider used in many of these destinations. The service only requires you to log in for access and does not have a data allowance (fair usage policy applies). Leading internet providers in London also provide reliable hotspots.

Postal Services

Standard post in the UK is handled by the **Royal Mail**. There are main post offices providing all postal services in every London district, as well as many smaller sub-post offices attached to newsagents and other small shops – these can handle all normal mail. Main post offices are usually open from 9am to 5:30pm Monday to Friday, and to 12:30pm on Saturday. Post offices also exchange money and handle international money transfers.

Post within the UK can be sent by first- or second-class mail. First-class costs a little more and is quicker. Stamps can be bought from post offices. Newsagents usually sell them, but may only have UK first- and second-class stamps, so for international mail you may need to find a post office. Public post

boxes can be sunk into walls or freestanding but are always red, and can be found throughout the city. There are several collections a day (Mon–Sat); times are indicated on the box.



Old-style pillar box



Newsagent stocking a range of international newspapers

International letters and cards sent from London take about three days to reach European destinations, and four to six days to North America, Australasia or Japan. A competitively priced Airture service provides express deliveries (2–4 days worldwide), as well as a much slower but cheaper surface mail option.

Newspapers and Magazines

London's main local papers are the *Evening Standard*, distributed free in the centre of town from noon on weekdays, and the *Metro*, which is the morning paper. *Time Out London* magazine, published each Tuesday, is London's most comprehensive listings guide, while *Stylist Magazine* and *Shortlist* are life-style publications.

A range of international newspapers and magazines, including *USA Today*, *International Herald Tribune* and major European papers, is on sale at newsstands and newsagents around central London. For more specialist foreign press, one of the best places to go is Old Compton Street in Soho.

TV and Radio

The UK's analogue signal has been turned off; all radio and TV is digital. The publicly owned BBC operates several television stations, including BBC One, BBC Two and BBC News. Other free-to-air channels are the independent ITV, Channel 4 and Five.

Extra channels available include BBC4 (arts-oriented) and various movie, shopping and music channels. In addition, many hotels also have satellite systems. If you want to view US and other international channels (such as ESPN), ask whether a hotel has Sky Plus or an enhanced Freeview package.

The BBC also has a number of radio stations, of which Radios 1 (97–99 FM) and 2 (88–91 FM) focus on pop music of different kinds, Radio 3 (90.2 FM) on classical and jazz, Radio 4 (92–96 FM) on speech and drama, and Radio 5 (909/693 AM) on news and sport. BBC London (94.9 FM) is good for keeping up with local issues and interests.

DIRECTORY

Telephone Services

British Telecom (BT)

Tel 150 or 0800 800 150.
w bt.com

EE

Tel 0800 956 6000.
w ee.co.uk

O2

Tel 0344 809 0222.
w o2.co.uk

Vodafone

Tel 0808 408 408.
w vodafone.co.uk

Postal Services

Royal Mail

Tel 0845 7740 740.
w royalmail.com

Newspapers and Magazines

Evening Standard

w standard.co.uk

Metro

w metro.co.uk

Stylist

w stylist.co.uk

Shortlist

w shortlist.com

Time Out

w timeout.com/london

Wi-Fi Services

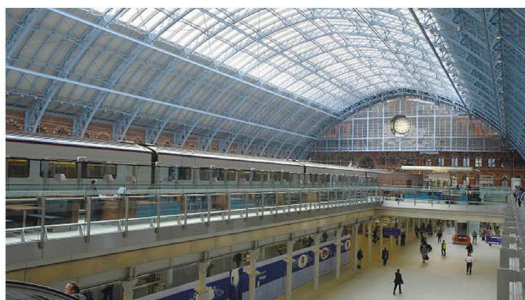
The Cloud

w thecloud.net/

GETTING TO LONDON

London is one of Europe's central hubs for international air and rail travel. By air, travellers face a bewildering choice of carriers from Europe, North America, Australasia, the Far East and every other part of the globe. Stiff competition on some routes, especially from major European countries and North America, means that low-fare deals can often be found, so it's always worth shopping around. Since 1994, the Channel Tunnel has provided an efficient high-speed train link –

Eurostar – between France, Belgium and the UK, as well as a fast, weatherproof Channel crossing for drivers. Eurostar trains depart from St Pancras International Station. Many European cruises sail from or finish at ports not far from London, such as Southampton, Dover or Tilbury, and there are efficient passenger and car ferry services from Europe, using large ferries and faster jetfoils and catamarans, across the North Sea and the English Channel.



Station concourse at St Pancras International

Arriving by Rail

Eurostar runs frequent daily trains to London from Paris, Brussels and Lille, where the Paris and Brussels lines meet. Nonstop trains from Paris (Gare du Nord) take 2 hours 25 minutes; from Brussels, 2 hours. Some trains also stop at Calais before entering the Channel Tunnel on the French side, and at Ashford and Ebbsfleet on the English. If you travel by train from any other part of Europe and want to connect with Eurostar, it's best to do so at Lille, as you change trains in the same station – quicker and far easier than doing so in Paris. Check-in on Eurostar is only 30 minutes before departure, so it's generally far quicker than flying.

Eurostar trains arrive in London at St Pancras International, on the northern edge of central London, next to King's Cross Underground station. The station is on six Underground lines, so is well connected with every part of the city. Eurostar fares vary a good deal according to flexibility

and the time of day you travel (early morning trains are often the cheapest), so check current rates on the website when booking. Information and bookings for connecting trains from other parts of Europe can be found on the Rail Europe website.

London has eight mainline rail stations at which trains from different parts of Britain terminate: Paddington serves the West Country, Wales and the South Midlands; Liverpool Street serves East Anglia and Essex; King's Cross, St Pancras and Euston cover northern Britain; and Charing Cross, Victoria and Waterloo cover southern England, and also the main Channel ferry ports.

The current UK railway system is complicated and can be confusing. Lines are run by several different companies, but they are coordinated by **National Rail**, which operates a joint information service. Fare structures are especially complex: tickets can be very expensive or surprisingly

cheap, depending on when you book and when you want to travel. Going to a station the same day you want to travel and buying a ticket over the counter is always the most expensive way to travel.

Whenever possible, book trains in advance and check alternative fares, bearing in mind that the best fares may only be available online. The National Rail website has a useful cheapest fare finder feature, which then links you to the relevant company site to make the booking. Also helpful is **Trainline**, an independent booking agency which often has discounted tickets. Tickets booked online can be collected at the station and a handy app stores journeys and booking references. Fares on suburban rail services around London are less complex, so there is no need to book ahead. Rail lines within London accept payment by Oyster card (see p374) and contactless credit/debit cards.



An information point at a London railway station



Cross-Channel ferry heading to Calais

Arriving by Coach

International and national coach services from every part of Europe and the UK arrive in London at Victoria Coach Station on Buckingham Palace Road, about five minutes' walk from Victoria rail and Underground stations, and with several local bus stops outside. If you're planning to travel to any UK destinations outside of the London area, it's slower but nearly always cheaper to do it by coach than by train, with fares as low as £1 on some London–Oxford services (although train companies may lower fares on the same routes).

National Express operates the most extensive UK coach network, with around 1,000 destinations covered, and is also associated with Eurolines international coach services.

Megabus has especially low fares to many UK destinations, and also discount train offers.

Green Line runs buses between London and the surrounding counties, and has a service to Luton Airport (see p373).

Arriving by Sea and Tunnel

The **Eurotunnel** shuttle – the other train service using the Channel Tunnel – is a drive-on, drive-off service for cars between Calais and Folkestone, where the Tunnel connects with the M20 motorway to London. There are usually four shuttles per hour, with a journey time of about 35 minutes.

If you prefer to brave the elements, there are still plenty of ferry services between

southeast England and Continental ports. Harwich in Essex has ferries from Hook of Holland in the Netherlands with **Stena Line**. Dover is the busiest port, with frequent services from France: from Dunkerque and Boulogne with **DFDS Seaways** and from Calais with **P&O Ferries** and DFDS. Newhaven–Dieppe ferries are also operated by DFDS.

There are also several routes across other parts of the Channel, which take longer, but may leave you better located for the west of England: to Portsmouth from Caen, Cherbourg, Le Havre and St Malo with **Brittany Ferries**, or from Le Havre with DFDS; to Poole from Cherbourg with Brittany Ferries; or to Poole or Weymouth from St Malo and the Channel Islands with **Condor Ferries**.

Crossing times to Dover are around 1 hour 15 minutes; in other parts of the Channel, it takes more like 5–6 hours, although in summer, fast jetfoils and catamarans cut this to 2–3 hours.

There are also ferry services from Spain: from Santander to Plymouth or Portsmouth with Brittany Ferries; and from Bilbao to Portsmouth with P&O. Crossings take around 24 hours, on comfortable mini cruise ships.

Driving time from Dover or the Channel Tunnel to central London is usually around 2 hours; from Portsmouth, 2–2½ hours. If you bring a car to London, always try to arrange a place to stay with free parking, otherwise this can become extremely expensive.

DIRECTORY

Rail Services

Eurostar

London St Pancras International.

Tel 0344 8224 777.

 eurostar.com

National Rail

Tel 0845 748 4950.

 nationalrail.co.uk


Rail Europe

Tel 1 800 622 8600 (USA), 0844 848 5848 (UK).

 raileurope.com

Trainline


Tel 0871 244 1545.

 thetrainline.com

Coach Services

Green Line

Tel 0844 801 7261.

 greenline.co.uk

Megabus

Tel 0900 160 0900.

 uk.megabus.com

National Express


Tel 08717 818 181.

 nationalexpress.com

Channel Tunnel and Ferries

Brittany Ferries

Tel 0871 244 0744.


 brittany-ferries.co.uk

Condor Ferries

Tel 01202 207 216.


 condorferries.co.uk

DFDS Seaways

 dfdsseaways.co.uk

Eurotunnel

Tel 08443 353 535.

 eurotunnel.com

P&O Ferries

Tel 0871 664 2121.

 poferries.com

Stena Line

Tel 0844 770 7070.

 stenaline.co.uk

Arriving by Air

London's two main airports, Heathrow and Gatwick, are augmented by smaller facilities at Luton, Stansted and London City (see pp372–3). Check which airport you will land at, and plan your journey from there. All the airports have train or coach links; Heathrow is also connected to central London by Underground. Because the airports are so far apart from each other, travelling between them is best avoided.



British Airways passenger jet at Heathrow airport

Airlines and Fares

Heathrow and Gatwick have long-haul connections with every part of the world, on scores of airlines. The main US airlines offering scheduled flights to London include **Delta**, **United** and **American Airlines**, while from Canada, there are frequent services with **Air Canada**. **British Airways** and **Virgin Atlantic** also fly from many North American cities. The flight time from New York is about 7½ hours; from Los Angeles, about 10 hours.

The choice of carriers from Australasia and Asia is enormous too: **Qantas**, **Air New Zealand** and British Airways may be the obvious first choices, but operators such as **Singapore Airlines** and **Emirates** offer alternatives.

All the main European scheduled airlines, such as British Airways, Air France, **Iberia** and **Lufthansa**, offer frequent connections, mostly to Heathrow or Gatwick, but they now carry less traffic than the low-cost airlines. **Ryanair** has budget flights from across Europe, Ireland and the UK, mostly into Stansted, while **easyJet** runs almost as extensive a European and British network from Stansted, Luton and Gatwick.

Very few airlines now offer reduced prices for children. Low-cost flights can normally

be booked only through each airline's own website. Note that low-cost airlines regularly add extra charges on top of the fare – such as one for checking in luggage. Ryanair, for example, charges £15 if you cannot download and print your own boarding card, and need one to be issued by ground staff at the airport.

Security

Security is tighter than ever at London airports. Allow at least 2 hours to check in and get through security before your departing flight, especially – because of its size – at Heathrow. Allow the same time to catch low-cost flights if you are checking in a bag, since in the interests of keeping costs down, there are not many check-in staff, so lines move slowly.



Access to the Underground from a terminal at Heathrow

Heathrow (LHR)

Heathrow in west London is one of the world's busiest airports. It has five terminals, so it's important to know which one your flight will arrive at or depart from. Terminals 1, 2 and 3, the oldest, share an Underground Central station and Heathrow Central rail station; Terminal 4 has its own Underground station; Terminal 5, which opened in 2008, has Underground and rail stations. A free shuttle bus runs between the Terminals. Most British Airways flights use Terminal 5; most other long-haul airlines use Terminals 3 or 4. There are shops and other facilities in every terminal.

There are several ways into London from Heathrow. The fastest rail service is the **Heathrow Express**, with trains every 15 minutes from around 5am to 11:30pm daily to Paddington station on the west side of central London. Journey time is about 15 minutes to Terminals 2 and 3 (from which you can take the free transfer service to Terminal 4) and a further 6 minutes to Terminal 5. Fares are around £25 single, £39 return (slightly less if you buy online). **Heathrow Connect** trains run on the same lines but



Heathrow Terminal 5, used exclusively by British Airways

with several stops, and take 25–30 minutes to reach Paddington. Fares are around £9.50 single (service due to be replaced by Crossrail trains May 2018).

The Underground offers a much cheaper way of getting into London, but is also much slower. Trains run frequently, calling at all Heathrow terminals from around 5am to midnight Monday to Saturday; 5:50am–11:30pm Sunday. Unlike the Heathrow Express, the Tube runs right into the city centre; allow about 45 minutes to get to Leicester Square. As on all London public transport, it's cheaper with an Oyster card (see p374); the adult fare from Heathrow into the city centre is £5.50.

National Express and other companies run bus routes from Heathrow to Oxford, central London, London airports and other destinations. The main bus station is at Terminals 1, 2 and 3,

but buses also stop at 4 and 5. A taxi to central London costs about £50.

Driving time is between 30 minutes and 1 hour. It's worth noting that local minicab companies offer much cheaper rates (see p381).

London City Airport (LCY)

London City Airport is the closest airport to central London, located in the Docklands business area just east of London's financial district (the City). Unlike some other airports, it was created primarily for business travellers, so flights are quite expensive. It offers flights to a number of

European destinations, and a luxury service to New York.

London City has its own station on the Docklands Light Railway (DLR), which connects with the Underground network at Tower Hill and Bank. Buses also operate to and from the airport. A taxi to the City costs about £28 and takes 30 minutes; to the West End £40, taking around 45 minutes.



London City Airport, within sight of the city's Docklands area



Gatwick (LGW)

Gatwick airport lies due south of central London, and handles long-haul, European and low-cost flights. There are two terminals – North and South – so as at Heathrow, you need to be clear which one you need. The train station and main bus stops are at the South Terminal, from where there is a free shuttle train to the North. Allow around 20 minutes to transfer between terminals. There are banks, shops, cafés and other facilities at both.

There is a choice of three rail services from Gatwick into London, all from the same station. The **Gatwick Express** is the fastest, with trains every 15 minutes to Victoria Station. It runs from 4:35am to midnight daily and takes about 30 minutes (a little longer on Sundays), but it isn't cheap; the fare is just under £20 single, £35 return. Cheaper tickets can be bought online. **Thameslink** runs around two trains per hour over the same period to St Pancras International via several stops including East Croydon and London Bridge. Journey time is about an hour, and a single fare around £10. **Southern Railway** has several trains each hour to London Victoria, with a journey time of 30–50 minutes and a single fare of around £12.



Entrance to Stansted's spacious modern passenger terminal

National Express and other companies run buses from the South Terminal to Heathrow and central London (and many towns in southern England), and **easyBus** runs frequently from the North and South terminals to Earl's Court/West Brompton in London. Buses are not limited to easyJet passengers, and fares begin at £2. A taxi into central London will set you back around £90, and can take 1–2 hours. As at Heathrow, minicab companies at Gatwick offer better rates.

Stansted (STN)

Around 40 miles northeast of London, Stansted is the airport in southeast England most popular with low-cost airlines, and so has a huge

number of flights from destinations all over Europe.

The rail link into London is the **Stansted Express** train, which runs every 15 minutes from around 6am to 12:30am. Trains run to Liverpool Street, on the east side of central London, with a stop at Tottenham Hale (where you can transfer to the Victoria Underground line). Trains from Liverpool Street to Stansted run from approximately 4:40am to 11:30pm daily. The full journey takes 45 minutes. Adult fares to Liverpool Street are £23.40 single, £33.20 return (cheaper online). **Abellio Greater Anglia** trains also run roughly once an hour to London Stratford station near to East London's Olympic Park, with several stops, taking one hour for a fare of around £20.

Several bus services run from Stansted to London. National Express runs to Victoria Coach Station (prices start at £5, book ahead) and many other destinations around the region, but **easyBus** is again the cheapest, with tickets to Baker Street Underground station



Gatwick's free monorail service linking the two terminals

Airport	To city centre	Average journey time	Average taxi fare
London City	10 km (6 miles)	Tube and DLR: 40 minutes	£28
Heathrow	23 km (14 miles)	Rail: 15 minutes Tube: 45 minutes	£50
Gatwick	45 km (28 miles)	Rail: 30 minutes Bus: 70 minutes	£90
Luton	51 km (32 miles)	Rail: 35 minutes Bus: 70 minutes	£60
Stansted	55 km (34 miles)	Rail: 45 minutes Bus: 75 minutes	£90

from £2. A taxi to central London can take 1 hour 30 minutes and cost £90 to £100.

Luton (LTN)

Luton airport lies northwest of London near the M1 motorway, and is used almost exclusively by charter flights and low-cost airlines, especially easyJet.

A shuttle bus connects the terminal with Luton Airport Parkway train station (about a 5-minute drive), from around 5am to midnight daily.

Thameslink has about four trains each hour to London St Pancras – a journey of around 25–40 minutes for an adult single fare of £14. **East**

Midlands Trains operate on the same route, and are a little cheaper, at £12. Green Line buses (route 757) run every 15 minutes almost 24 hours

daily between the airport and London Victoria Coach station, with adult fares around £10 (see p369); easyBus has frequent services to Victoria via Baker Street, with tickets from £2. National Express runs from Luton to Heathrow, Gatwick, Stansted and other destinations. A taxi into central London will cost around £90, and take about 45 minutes.

Airport Hotels

Given the long check-in times at the main airports, it can be a good idea – or even necessary – to stay nearby the night before departure, especially if you have an early-morning flight. There is a large number of hotels in the vicinity of Heathrow and Gatwick; many of these frequently have discount offers. All of them provide shuttle



Relaxing bar of the popular Sheraton Skyline hotel

buses to the airport terminals – in budget hotels this may be charged extra. The **Premier Inn**, **Travelodge**, **Sofitel** and **Holiday Inn** chains have cheap, functional rooms close to the airports. A selection of airport hotels is listed below, but there are many more to choose from.

DIRECTORY

Major Airlines

Air Canada

 aircanada.com

Air New Zealand

 airnewzealand.com

American Airlines

 aa.com


British Airways

 britishairways.com


Delta Airlines

 delta.com

easyJet

 easyjet.com


Emirates

 emirates.com

Iberia

 iberia.com

Lufthansa

 lufthansa.com

Qantas

 qantas.com

Ryanair

 ryanair.com

Singapore Airlines

 singaporeair.com


United Airlines


 united.com


Virgin Atlantic


 virgin-atlantic.com

Travel Websites

 cheapflights.com

 ebookers.com

 expedia.com

 flights.com

 orbitz.com

 priceline.com


 travelnow.com

 travelocity.com

Airport Information


Gatwick

Tel 0844 892 0322.

 gatwickairport.com


Heathrow

Tel 0844 335 1801.

 heathrowairport.com


London City Airport

Tel 020 7646 0088.

 londoncityairport.com


Luton

Tel 01582 405 100,
0906 211 500 00 (flight
information).

 london-luton.co.uk

Stansted

Tel 0844 335 1803.

 stanstedairport.com


Airport Transport

Abellio Greater Anglia

Tel 0345 600 7245.

 abelliogreateranglia.co.uk

easyBus

 easybus.com

East Midlands Trains

Tel 08457 125 678.

 eastmidlandstrains.co.uk


Thameslink

Tel 0345 026 4700.

 thameslinkrailway.com


Gatwick Express

Tel 0845 850 1530.

 gatwickexpress.com


Heathrow Connect

Tel 0845 678 6975.

 heathrowconnect.com


Heathrow Express

Tel 0845 600 1515.

 heathrowexpress.com


Southern Railway

Tel 0845 127 2920.

 southernrailway.com

Stansted Express

Tel 0845 600 7245.

 stanstedexpress.com

Hotels

Holiday Inn London


Heathrow Ariel

Tel 0871 423 4901.

 ihg.com


Premier Inn Heathrow (Bath Road)

Tel 0871 527 8508.

 premierinn.com


Sofitel London Gatwick

Tel 01293 567 070.

 sofitel.com

Travelodge Gatwick Airport

Tel 0871 984 6031.

 travelodge.co.uk

GETTING AROUND LONDON

London has one of the busiest, most extensive public transport systems in Europe; it also has all the problems of overcrowding to match. Initiatives are underway to make walking and cycling around the city safer and more appealing. Within central and outer London, most of the public transport systems – city

and river buses, the Underground, overground rail lines – are coordinated by Transport for London (TfL), which operates a common ticketing system centred on the pay-as-you-go Oyster card, which passengers use to “touch in” each time they use public transport.

The Transport System

The Underground railway – or “Tube”, is generally the fastest, most convenient way to get around the city. The Docklands area, some other parts of east London and Greenwich are served by the Docklands Light Railway (DLR), which connects with the Tube network principally at Bank, Tower Hill, Canary Wharf and Stratford. Tube and DLR lines do not run to every part of the city, however; in particular, large parts of south London are reliant on overground rail connections. Bus routes cover every part of London. There are also riverbus boat services (see pp64–5).

Avoid travelling on public transport during morning and evening “rush hour” – 8–10am and 5–7pm Monday to Friday – if at all possible. For detailed information on every aspect of transport in London, check the TfL website. The site has an invaluable “Journey Planner” feature, to help you get around. TfL also has several Travel Information Centres. Those at Heathrow and Piccadilly Circus Underground stations and Euston, King’s Cross, Liverpool Street and Victoria mainline stations are helpful, and provide free maps and other information. Mobile apps such as Citymapper are also useful for those navigating the city.

Oyster Cards and Travelcards

London’s public transport is relatively expensive compared to that of many European cities, but the multi-journey cards



Heritage bus

available to visitors cut costs considerably. For Tube, DLR and local train fares, London is divided into six main fare zones radiating out from Zone 1 in the centre (on buses, there is a flat fare for each trip, no matter how far you travel). If you aim to pack all your sightseeing into one or two days and expect to take multiple trips around the city, the best ticket to get is a one-day off-peak Travelcard, which gives unlimited travel on all systems after 9:30am on weekdays (or any time on Saturday and Sunday) within zones 1–4 or 1–6 for a flat fee. If you expect to travel more freely, it is better to get a pay-as-you-go Oyster card, which you

can preload and top up with as much credit as you wish (note that a £5 deposit is required when purchasing an Oyster card and you will need one card per person). It is also possible to use a contactless credit/

debit card to pay for journeys in much the same way as the Oyster card. When using public transport, you “touch in” with your card on a yellow Oyster Card reader, and the corresponding amount is deducted. On Underground, DLR and overground trains, you must also remember to “touch out” where you will finish your journey, or you will be charged a maximum fare. Buses do not accept cash so a ticket, Oyster card or contactless payment is required.

Travelcards and Oyster cards can be bought at Tube and local rail stations, Travel Information Centres and hundreds of small shops that have the TfL Ticket Stop sticker in the window. You can also obtain them before arriving in London, on Eurostar, Gatwick Express or Stansted Express trains, or online, with advance delivery to 63 countries, through the Visit London and TfL websites.

Travel is free on buses for under-16s as long as they carry a Zip Oyster card (apply for one on the TfL website at least four weeks before you need to pick it up from a TfL Visitor Centre); the Underground and DLR are free for under-11s, and have reduced fares for 11–15-year-olds. A one-day Travelcard for 11–15s costs £6 for main fare zones 1–6.

Walking

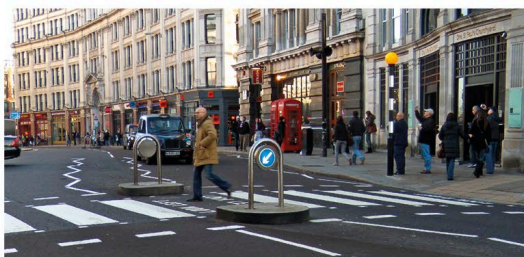
Once you get used to traffic driving on the left, London can be enjoyably explored on foot. There are two types of pedestrian crossing in London: striped “zebra” crossings, marked by beacons; and push-button crossings at traffic lights. Traffic should stop if you wait at a zebra crossing, but at push-button crossings, cars will not stop until they have a red light. Look out for instructions painted on the road, which tell you from which direction you can expect traffic to appear.



Pre-paid Oyster card being placed on a card reader



A London Underground sign at a station



A pedestrian zebra crossing

Cycling

The TfL website's cycling page is invaluable for those cycling around the city, including useful information about the Cycle Superhighway – safe, designated cycle routes throughout London. Cycle routes are signposted around the city. **Santander Cycle Hire**, London's bike hire scheme, has 6,000 bikes available at docking terminals across the city. The **London Bicycle Tour Company** delivers and collects bikes to and from your location. With your rented bike, you should be given a helmet, lock and other accessories.

Green Travel

Travelling around by foot, Tube, bus, train or riverbus is more energy-efficient than driving or taking a taxi. London's Congestion Charge helps discourage driving in the city centre. The distance between some Tube stations can be covered on foot in less time than it takes to go underground. London continues to invest in improved conditions for cyclists, and this can be the fastest way to get around the city. There are several "green" minicab companies, using hybrid or alternative fuel vehicles, but the most prominent is **Green Tomato Cars**.

Driving in London

Driving is usually the worst way of getting around town. Traffic moves at an average of 11 mph (18 kmh) for much of the day, parking is scarce and expensive, and in central London, there is the added cost of the Congestion Charge – a £11.50-a-day fee paid in advance for private

vehicles entering the charging zone (roughly: the City, the West End, and Mayfair in the west; and south as far as Elephant & Castle) between 7am and 6pm Monday to Friday. If you are determined to drive, remember to drive on the left.

All the well-known car-rental firms, such as **Europcar**, **Auto Europe** and **Hertz**, operate in London. Renting in advance or as an add-on with your flight will get the best rates. To drive out of central London takes about an hour in any direction; if you want to tour the countryside, it can be easier to take a train to a city outside London and rent there.

Parking

Parking is prohibited at all times wherever the street is marked with red or double yellow lines by the kerb. If there is a single yellow line, parking is normally allowed from 6:30pm to 8am Monday to Saturday and all day Sunday, but exact hours vary, so always check the signs along each street. Where there is no line at all, parking is free at all times, but this is rare in central London. Rental car drivers are still liable for parking fines.




A cycle path in one of London's parks

DIRECTORY

Transport for London


Tel 0343 222 1234 (info), 0845 900 1234 (Congestion Charge). Congestion Charge payable in advance online, by text message, by phone or by post. A Penalty Charge Notice (PCN) will be issued should you not pay in time.

 tfl.gov.uk

Cycling

London Bicycle Tour Company

Tel 020 7928 6838.

 londonbicycle.com

London Cycling Campaign

Tel 020 7234 9310.

 lcc.org.uk

Santander Cycle Hire


Tel 0343 222 6666.

 tfl.gov.uk

Green Travel

Green Tomato Cars


Tel 020 7107 0777.

 greentomatocars.com

Driving


Auto Europe

Tel 1 888 223 5555 (USA), 0800 358 1229 (UK).

 autoeurope.com


Europcar

Tel 0871 384 9900 (UK).

 europcar.com

Hertz Rent a Car

Tel 1 800 654 3001 (USA), 0870 841 5161 (UK).

 hertz.com

Travelling by Underground

The underground railway system, known as the Tube, has some 270 stations, each identified by the Underground logo. Trains run every day except Christmas Day, from about 5:30am till midnight Monday to Thursday; 5:30am till 1am on Friday and Saturday; and 6:30am to 11:30pm on Sunday. Five lines began running 24-hour Tube services on Fridays and Saturdays in 2016, and there are plans to expand these services; its progress can be checked on the TfL website: www.tfl.gov.uk. The Docklands Light Railway (DLR) in east and southeast London connects with the Tube and runs to London City Airport. For information, call 0343 222 1234 or check the TfL website.



London Underground train

Planning Your Journey

There are 12 Tube lines, all named and colour-coded (red for Central, blue for Victoria, etc.), which intersect at various stations. Some lines, like the Jubilee, have a single branch; others, like the Northern, have more than one, so it's important to check the digital boards on the platform and the destination on the front of the train. The Circle Line is a continuous loop around central London with an extension to Hammersmith. The Central, Jubilee, Northern, Victoria and Piccadilly

lines offer a night service on Fridays and Saturdays. There are maps of the Tube system (see *inside back cover*) at each station.

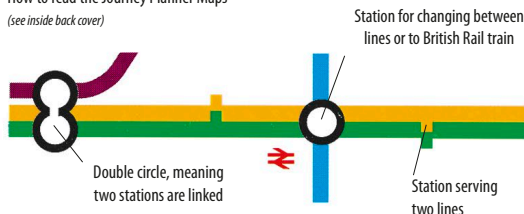
The Tube map isn't to scale, nor can it be relied upon for directions. From it, you can work out where to change to travel to any station on the system. All eight of London's mainline rail stations (see p368) have Tube stations. Due to ongoing Tube improvement, services are sometimes suspended, usually at weekends. When this happens, replacement buses are provided. Check for line closures before travelling.

Buying a Ticket

All Tube and DLR stations fall within one of six main fare zones (see p374). The zones you travel through determine the cost of your journey. Unless you plan on making very few journeys by Tube, it will usually be best to travel with a multi-journey Travelcard or an Oyster card (see p374). However, you can also buy single or return tickets from ticket offices and ticket machines, or pay using a contactless credit or debit card. All Underground and DLR stations have touch-screen machines giving step-by-step instructions in a variety of languages. They accept coins, notes and credit and debit cards; you can also use them to top up your credit on an Oyster card. To check current fares, select the ticket type you need, choose the station you wish to travel to, and the fare will be displayed on screen.

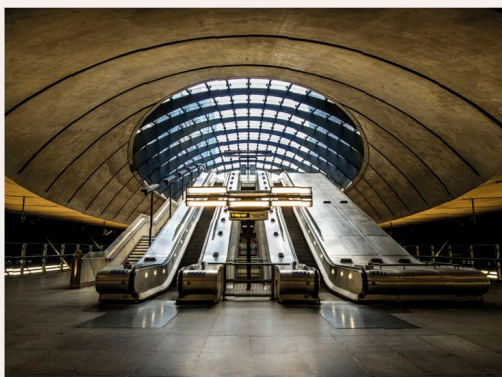
How to read the Journey Planner Maps

(see *inside back cover*)



Tube Architecture

The Underground's reputation for exciting architecture was established in the 1930s. In 1999, the Jubilee Line Extension opened to great acclaim, with six imposing and elegant stations designed by a group of top architects including Will Alsop (North Greenwich), Norman Foster (Canary Wharf) and Matthew Hopkins (Westminster). A similarly light, spacious style has been adopted in the impressive Tube, DLR, bus and mainline rail hub at Stratford, gateway to the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park.



Inside Canary Wharf Underground station

Making a Journey by Underground

- 1** When you first enter the station, check which line, or lines, you need to take. The times of first and last trains are also posted at every station.



- 2** Buy your ticket or Travelcard from a ticket office or ticket machine at the station. Keep your ticket; you will need it to exit at your destination. Pre-bought Oyster cards can be topped up at machines or online for later trips. You can also use contactless credit/debit cards to make a journey.



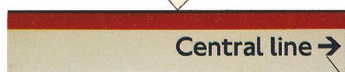
Feed your ticket into the slot at the front of the machine; retrieve it from the slot at the top.



Touch an Oyster card or contactless credit/debit card on the yellow card reader.



The ticket office is near the ticket barriers in most stations.

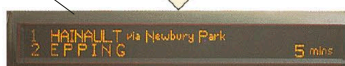


- 3** The platforms are on the other side of the ticket barriers.



- 4** Follow the directions to the line on which you need to travel. In some cases this can be a complicated route, but it will be well signposted.

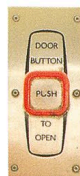
- 6** All platforms have electronic indicators displaying the final destination of the next two or three trains and how long you will have to wait before they arrive. On lines with branches, they also indicate the route of each train.



- 7** Once you have begun your journey, you can check on your progress using the line chart displayed in every carriage. The name of the next station is announced before you arrive, and as you pull into each station, you will see its name posted along the walls.



- 5** You will eventually find yourself with a choice of platforms for the line you want. Look at the list of stations if you are not sure which direction to take.



On all DLR and some Tube trains, push a button to open the carriage doors.

- 8** After leaving the train, look for signs giving directions to exits or to platforms for any connecting lines.

Travelling by Bus and Boat

The red double-decker bus is one of London's most recognizable symbols, but the design of London buses has changed a great deal over the years. The old, classic open-backed Routemaster buses have been withdrawn (with the exception of two "heritage" routes), and in their place are modern, square-sided double-deckers, single-deckers for less busy routes, and a modernized Routemaster bus with access at the back and front of the bus. Travelling by bus is an enjoyable, easy way to see London, especially in the middle of the day, and much cheaper than going by Tube or DLR if you have an Oyster card. On the minus side, bus journeys can be slow, especially during rush hour (8–10am and 5–7pm Monday to Friday).

Finding the Right Bus

Bus maps showing all the main routes are available free from Travel Information Centres, or can be downloaded from the Visit London and Transport for London (TfL) websites. All London bus stops have bus route signs displaying the routes that run from that stop, with lists of their main destinations. On streets that are used by several bus routes – for example Oxford Street in the West End – routes are bunched together at different stops near each other, so make sure you find the right

one. Stops also have local area maps showing which of the adjacent bus stops, identified by a letter, you need for buses to a particular area. If in doubt, ask the bus driver when boarding.

Using London Buses

Buses halt at stops marked with the London bus logo. Many have electronic display boards indicating when the next bus is due (this information can also be accessed via an app). Some stops are "request" stops, where

drivers will not stop unless they are waved down by a passenger. If they do not stop despite being hailed, it means that the bus is full and no passenger has asked to get off. Destinations are displayed clearly on the front of the bus, and on many buses, the next upcoming stop is indicated on electronic information boards, or announced by an automatic voice system. However, if you are unsure which stop you need, ask the driver to alert you, and stay on the lower deck.

Board buses at the front, so that you can touch in your Oyster Card on the yellow Oyster reader by the driver's cab, or show your Travelcard. Hopper bus fares were introduced in 2016, allowing anyone paying by either Oyster or contactless card to make a second bus journey for free within one hour of touching in on the first bus. Inspectors – sometimes in plain clothes – often check whether passengers have valid tickets or passes.

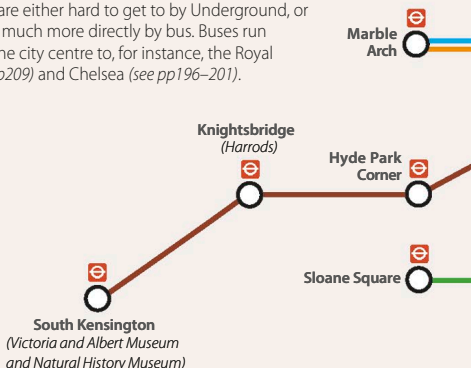
Bus Stops

Buses halt at all major stops, such as train stations and popular shopping and visitor destinations, on their routes. At some stops, called request stops, the driver will not halt unless alerted. If you want to board, raise your arm as the bus approaches the stop; when you want to get off, ring the bell once before your stop.



Useful Bus Routes

Several of London's bus routes are particularly convenient for the capital's main sights and shops. If you arm yourself with an Oyster card or Travelcard and are in no particular hurry, sightseeing or shopping by bus can be great fun. The cost of a journey by public transport is far less than any of the charges levied by tour operators, although you won't have the commentary that tour companies give you as you pass sights (see p358–9). There are also some sights or areas in London that are either hard to get to by Underground, or can be reached much more directly by bus. Buses run regularly from the city centre to, for instance, the Royal Albert Hall (see p209) and Chelsea (see pp196–201).





MBNA Thames Clipper boat heading towards Waterloo Bridge

Night Buses

Some main bus routes run 24 hours daily. Night bus services (indicated by the letter "N" added before the route number) also run on many popular routes from 11pm until 6am, generally 3–4 times per hour up to 2–3am, but often only once an hour after that. Many night bus routes originate in or pass through Trafalgar Square, then run out into the suburbs. In the centre they are often very crowded, especially at weekends, but empty out quickly as they move further out. Plan your journey carefully; London is so

big that even if you board a bus going in the right direction, you can still be a long walk from your accommodation. As always, be aware of personal security when travelling at night.

Riverboats

Some of London's most spectacular views can only be seen from the River Thames. River trips have also been integrated into London's transport system.

MBNA Thames Clippers runs several services on catamarans every 20 minutes between Westminster and North

Greenwich or Woolwich from 7am to around midnight in both directions, via the London Eye, Bankside, Tower Bridge and other stops at various river piers. They also operate the **Tate Boat**, a direct boat between the Tate Britain and Tate Modern museums (every 40 minutes in each direction, 10am to 5pm), as well as special services for events at the O2 Arena. Oyster cards can be used on board, and Travelcard holders get discounted tickets. For more information, check with MBNA Thames Clippers or www.tfl.gov.uk.

DIRECTORY

Riverboat Services

Tate Boat

Tel 020 7887 8888.

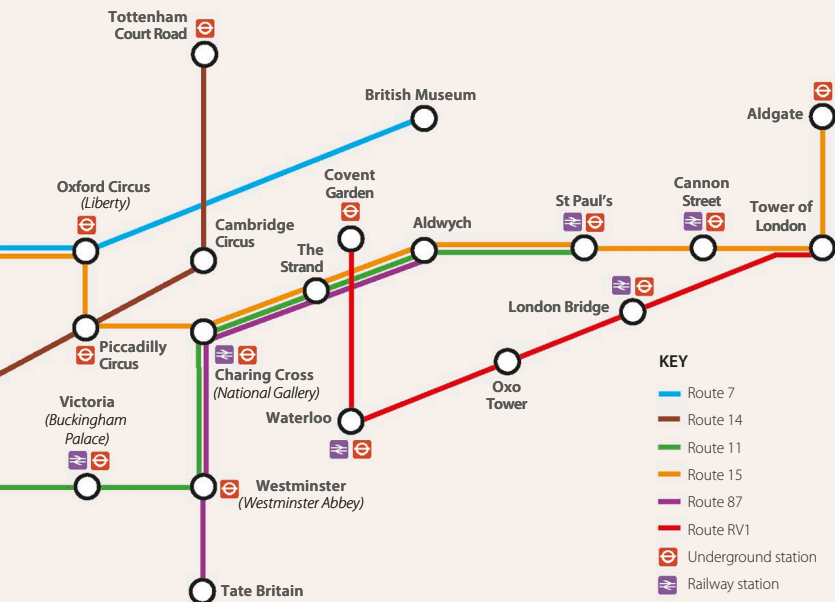
[w tate.org.uk/visit/tate-boat](http://www.tate.org.uk/visit/tate-boat)

MBNA Thames Clippers

Tel 020 7001 2222.

[w thamesclippers.co.uk](http://www.thamesclippers.co.uk)

For information on river cruises see "Cruise Highlights" on p65.



Travelling by Rail

London's local and suburban train lines (known as the "overground", which is also the name of the orbital line, the orange line on Tube maps) are used by hundreds of thousands of commuters every day. For visitors, rail services are most useful for trips to the outskirts of London and areas of the city without nearby Underground connections (especially in south London). If you are planning to travel outside of the capital, always try to book rail tickets in advance, and check to see what alternative fares are available; for more on rail tickets see p368.

Useful Routes

Two popular rail lines for visitors to London are those from Charing Cross (via London Bridge) and, on weekdays, Cannon Street to Greenwich (see pp240–47); and from Waterloo to Hampton Court (see pp260–63). A Thameslink line runs through London from Luton via St Pancras International to Gatwick. The London Overground (orange line) orbits central London, connecting Richmond in the southwest to Stratford in the northeast, a number of stations in the southeast to Clapham Junction and to the East End.

Using Trains

London has eight main railway termini serving different parts of Britain. Each terminus is also the starting-point for local and suburban lines that cover the whole of southeast England. There are over one hundred smaller London stations. Rail services travel overground and vary between trains that stop at every station, faster suburban trains, and express trains that run nonstop to major destinations. Some train doors will open automatically, others at the touch of a button.

Rail Tickets

Travelcards and Oyster cards are valid on nearly all overground rail services that fall entirely within the London area (defined as Transport for London fare zones 1–6, plus three more suburban zones), so using one or the other will generally be much more economical, and a lot quicker, than buying individual tickets. Be aware, though, that on most overground trains, peak travel times include the evening rush hour (4–7pm Monday–Friday) as well as the morning one (before 9:30am), so with an Oyster you will be charged more during these times. Many small stations do not have staffed ticket counters, just machines.



Return tickets for rail travel

Day Trips

Southern England has a lot to offer visitors besides London. By rail or by bus (see p369), getting out of the city is fast and easy. For details of sights, contact Visit Britain (www.visitbritain.com; 020 7578 1000). National Rail (0845 748 4950) has details of all rail services.



Taking the helm on a boating attraction at Legoland, Windsor

Audley End

Village with a stunning Jacobean mansion nearby.

🚆 from Liverpool Street.
64 km (40 miles); 1 hr.

Bath

Beautiful Georgian city, with Roman baths.

🚆 from Paddington.
172 km (107 miles); 1 hr 25 mins.

Brighton

Lively and attractive seaside resort home to the Royal Pavilion.

🚆 from Victoria or London Bridge.
85 km (53 miles); 1 hr.

Cambridge

University city with fine art gallery and ancient colleges.

🚆 from Liverpool Street or King's Cross.
86 km (54 miles); 1 hr.

Canterbury

Its cathedral is one of England's oldest and greatest sights.

🚆 from Victoria, Charing Cross or St Pancras. 100 km (62 miles); 1 hr 25 mins.

Hatfield House

Elizabethan palace with remarkable contents.

🚆 from King's Cross or Moorgate to Hatfield station.
33 km (21 miles); 20 mins.

Oxford

Like Cambridge, famous for its ancient university.

🚆 from Paddington.
90 km (56 miles); 1 hr.

St Albans

Cathedral and Roman theatre.

🚆 from King's Cross or Moorgate.
40 km (25 miles); 30 mins.

Salisbury

Famous for its cathedral, and close to Stonehenge.

🚆 from Waterloo.
135 km (84 miles); 1 hr 40 mins.

Windsor

Riverside town with Britain's grandest royal castle.

🚆 from Paddington, Charing Cross or St Pancras. 32 km (20 miles); 30 mins.

Travelling by Taxi

London's black cabs are as much of an institution as its red buses. Black cabs (some of which, it should be pointed out, are not actually black – you will often see blue, green, red or even white cabs) are the only cabs licensed to pick up passengers who hail a cab on the street, and their drivers have to take a stringent test on their knowledge of London and its traffic routes before they are awarded a licence. Minicabs, which by law must be booked in advance, not hailed, are a cheaper alternative for specific journeys.



Always approach the first taxi in the line at a taxi rank

Finding a Cab

Licensed London taxis, or black cabs, are large, distinctive vehicles – of which there are now several models – whose yellow “Taxi” sign is lit up whenever the taxi is free. You can hail them on the street, phone for them, or find them at taxi ranks, especially at airports, main rail stations and major hotels. If a cab stops for you, it must take you anywhere within a radius of 9.6 km (6 miles), as long as it is in the Metropolitan Police district, which includes most of the Greater London area and Heathrow Airport.

Taxi Fares

All black cabs have meters that start ticking at around £2.20 as soon as the driver accepts your custom. The fare then increases by the minute, or for each 311 m (340 yds) travelled. There are three tariff time bands: the cheapest is 6am–8pm Monday–Friday; the next most expensive, 8–10pm Monday–Friday and 6–10pm Saturday and Sunday; the most expensive is 10pm–6am. The meter must be clearly visible in the vehicle. It is usual to tip taxi and minicab drivers. If you lose anything in a licensed taxi, contact Transport for London's lost property office (see p363). You will need the driver's cab licence number, displayed in the back of the taxi.

Minicabs

Licensed minicabs are badged with a blue-and-white TfL sticker, usually on the back window. Do not use unlicensed cabs cruising

for business. TfL's Cabwise service is a good way of finding a safe cab: text “CAB” to 60835 and you will be sent phone numbers for one black cab office and two reliable minicab companies in the area. If using a non-UK mobile, text your location (street name and postal district) to 00 44 7797 800 000 to access the same service.

Mobile phone apps such as Uber allow you to book a taxi using your phone location and pay safely and conveniently through the app with a credit or debit card.

DIRECTORY

Complaints (Transport for London)

Tel 0343 222 1234.

[w tfl.gov.uk](http://w.tfl.gov.uk)

Computer Cabs

Tel 020 7908 0271.

[w computercab.co.uk](http://w.computercab.co.uk)

Dial-a-Minicab

Tel 020 8318 6768.

[w dialaminicab.com](http://w.dialaminicab.com)

Gett Taxis

[w gett.com/uk/](http://w.gett.com/uk/)

London Lady Chauffeurs (women-only drivers)

Tel 020 8878 7777.

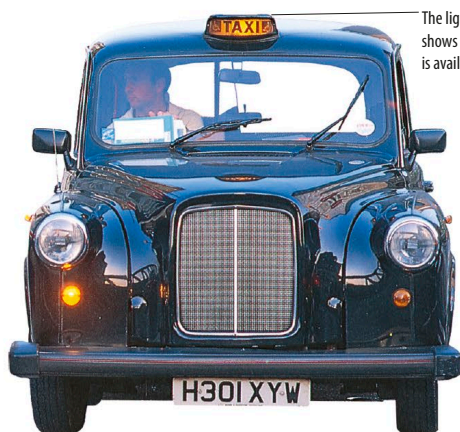
Radio Taxis

Tel 020 7272 0272.

[w radiotaxis.co.uk](http://w.radiotaxis.co.uk)

Uber

[w get.uber.com/go](http://w.get.uber.com/go)



The light, when lit, shows the cab is available.

The meter displays your fare as it increases, and surcharges for extra passengers, luggage or unsocial hours. Fares are the same in all licensed black cabs.



Fare

Surcharges

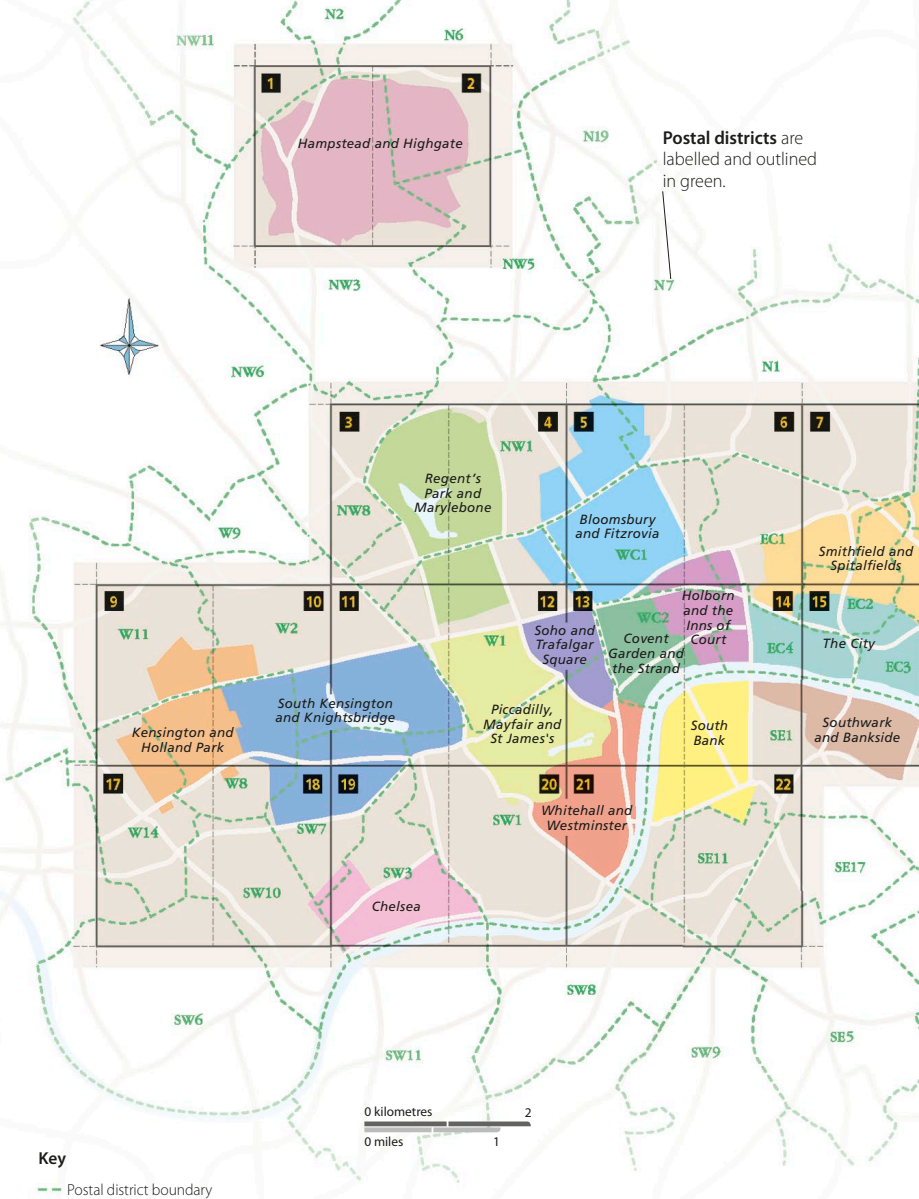
Licensed Taxi Cabs

London's cabs are a safe way of travelling around the city. They can carry a maximum of five passengers, are all accessible for wheelchair users and have ample luggage space.

STREET FINDER

The map references given with all sights, hotels, restaurants, shops and entertainment venues described in this book refer to the maps in this section only (see *How Map References Work opposite*). A complete index of street names and all the places of interest marked on the maps can be found on the following pages.

The key map below shows the area of London covered by the Street Finder, with the postal codes of the various districts. The maps include the sightseeing areas (which are colour-coded), as well as the whole of central London, with all the districts important for hotels, restaurants, pubs and entertainment venues.



How the Map References Work

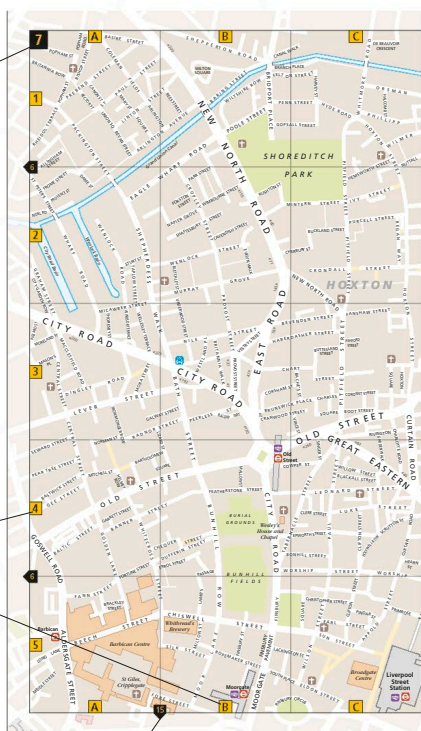
The first figure tells you which *Street Finder* map to turn to.

11 Wesley's Chapel–Leysian Mission

49 City Rd EC1 **Map 7** **B4** Tel 020 7253 2262. ☎ Old St, Moorgate. **Open** 10am–4pm Mon–Sat. **Closed** between Christmas & New Year, public hols (except Good Friday). ♿ **f** 9:45am (not 1st Sun of month), 11am Sun, 7am Mon, 12:45pm Wed & Thu. **g** groups book ahead. **h** Free lunchtime recitals: Thu. **w** wesleyschapel.org.uk

The letter and number give the grid reference. Letters go across the map's top and bottom; figures along its sides.

The map continues on map 15 of the *Street Finder*.



Key to Street Finder

- Major sight
- Other sight
- Other building
- Underground station
- Railway station
- Coach station
- Riverboat pier
- Tourist information office
- Hospital with casualty unit
- Police station
- Church
- Synagogue
- Railway line
- Motorway
- Pedestrian street

<<130 House number (main street)

Scale of Map Pages

0 metres 200
0 yards 200

1:12,000

Street Finder Index

18 Stafford Terrace W8
19 Princelet Street E1

9 C5
8 E5

Allen St W8
Allerstree Rd SW6
Allhallows La EC4
Allingham St N1
Allington St SW1
Allitsen Rd NW8
Allsop Pl NW1
Alpha Pl SW3
Ambergate St SE17
Ambrosden Ave SW1
Ampton St WC1
Ammwell St EC1
Anderson St SW3
Andrew's Rd E8
Angel Ct EC2
Angel Pas EC4
Angel St EC1
Angerstein La SE3
Anhalt Rd SW11
Ann La SW10
Annandale Rd SE10
Anselm Rd SW6
Apothecaries' Hall EC4
Appley St E2
Appold St EC2
Apsley House W1
Aquinas St SE1
Archbishop's Pk SE1
Archer Rd W14
Argyle Sq WC1
Argyle St WC1
Argyll Rd W8
Argyll St W1
Arlington Ave N1
Arlington Rd NW1
Arlington Sq N1
Arlington St SW1
Armada Rd SW6
Armitage Rd SE10
Arnold Circus E2
Artesian Rd W2
Arthur St EC4
Artillery La E1
Artillery Row SW1
Arundel Gdns W11
Arundel St WC2
Ashbridge St NW8
Ashburn Gdns SW7
Ashburn Pl SW7
Ashburnham Gro SE10
Ashburnham Pl SE10
Ashburnham Rd SW10
Ashby St EC1
Asher Way E1
Ashford St N1
Ashley Pl SW1
Ashmill St NW1
Astell St SW3
Atherstone Ms SW7
Atterbury St SW1
Atteneave St WC1
Aubrey Rd W8
Aubrey Wlk W8
Audley Sq W1
Audrey St E2
Augustus St NW1
Auriol Rd W14
Austin St E2
Australia House WC2
Austral St SE11
Aveline St SE11
Avenue Rd NW8
Avenue, The SE10
Avery Row W1
Avonmore Rd W14
Aybrook St W1
Aylesbury St EC1
Aylesford St SW1
Ayres St SE1

24 F1
3 A5
17 A4
13 B5
16 D5
15 C4
9 B5
9 B5
15 B2
23 C5
17 C1
21 B1
17 C1
18 D1
3 A1
9 A1
8 D1
5 C3
6 D3

Acacia Rd NW8
Acklam Rd W10
Acton Ms E8
Acton St WC1

Ada Pl E2
Ada St E8
Adam St WC2
Adam's Row W1
Addington St SE1
Addison Ave W11
Addison Cres W14
Addison Rd W14
Addle Street EC2
Adelphi Theatre WC2
Adler St E1
Admiral's Wlk NW3
Admiralty Arch SW1
Admiralty, The SW1
Agincourt Rd NW3
Aintree St SW6
Airlie Gdns W8
Air St W1
Aisgill Ave W14
Albany Courtyard W1
Albany St NW1
Albemarle St W1
Albert Bridge SW3
Albert Bridge SW11
Albert Bridge Rd SW11
Albert Ct SW7
Albert Embankment SE1

1 A4
13 B3
13 B4
2 D5
17 A5
9 C4
13 A2
17 C3
12 F3
4 E2
12 F3
19 B4
19 B5
19 B5
10 F5
13 C5
21 C2
10 F5
4 E1
22 F3
6 F5
11 B2
5 A2
15 A1
15 A1
20 E2
7 A5
15 A1

Albert Memorial SW7
Albert St NW1
Alberta St SE17
Albion Pl EC1
Albion St W2
Aldenham St NW1
Aldermanbury EC2
Aldermanbury Sq EC2
Alderney St SW1
Aldersgate St EC1

Aldford St W1
Aldgate EC3
Aldgate High St EC3
Aldridge Rd W11
Aldwych WC2
Alexander Pl SW7
Alexander Sq SW3
Alexander St W2
Alfred Pl WC1
Alie St E1
All Hallows by the
Tower EC3
All Saint's Dri SE3
All Saint's Rd W11
All Saint's St N1
All Souls Church W1

12 D3
16 D2
16 D1
9 B1
14 D2
19 A1
19 B1
10 D1
5 A5
16 E1
16 D3
24 E5
9 B1
5 C2
12 F1

18 D1
17 A5
15 B3
7 A1
20 F1
3 A2
3 C4
19 B4
22 F3
20 F1
6 D3
6 E3
19 C2
8 F1
15 B1
15 B3
15 A1
24 F4
19 B5
18 F5
24 E1
17 C4
14 F2
8 D2
7 C5
12 D4
14 E4
22 D1
17 B4
5 C3
5 C3
9 C5
12 F2
7 A1
4 E1
7 A1
12 F3
17 C5
24 E1
8 D3
9 C2
15 B2
8 D5
21 A1
9 B2
14 D2
3 A4
18 E2
18 E2
23 A4
23 A3
18 F5
6 F3
16 F3
7 C3
20 F1
3 B5
19 B3
18 F1
21 B2
6 D4
9 B4
9 B4
12 D3
8 F2
4 F2
17 A2
8 D3
14 D2
22 F1
22 D3
3 A1
23 C3
12 E2
17 A1
12 D1
6 F4
21 A3
15 A4

Babmaes St SW1
Bache's St N1
Back Church La E1
Back Hill EC1
Back La NW3
Bacon St E1, E2
Bainbridge St WC1
Baker St NW1, W1

Balcombe St NW1
Balderton St W1
Baldwin St EC1
Baldwin's Gdns EC1
Balfie St N1
Ballast Quay SE10

Bainlei Gate SW1
Baltic St EC1
Bank End SE1
Bank of England EC2
Bankside SE1
Bankside Gallery SE1
Banner St EC1
Banning St SE10
Banqueting House SW1
Barbican Centre EC2
Barclay Rd SW6
Bardsley La SE10
Barford St N1
Barge House St SE1
Baring St N1
Bark Pl W2
Barkston Gdns SW5
Barnby St NW1
Barnet Gro E2
Barnham St E1
Barnsbury Rd N1
Baron St N1
Baroness Rd E2
Baron's Ct Rd W14
Baron's Keep W14
Baron's Pl SE1
Barrow Hill Rd NW8
Barter St WC1
Bartholomew Clo EC1
Bartholomew La EC2
Bartholomew Sq EC1
Barton Rd W14
Basil St SW3
Basing St W11
Basinghall Ave EC2
Basinghall St EC2
Basire St N1
Bassett Rd W10
Bastwick St EC1
Batchelor St N1
Bateman's Row EC2
Bath St EC1
Bathurst Ms W2
Bathurst St W2
Battersea Bridge
SW3, SW11
Battersea Bridge Rd SW11
Battersea Park SW11

Battersea Pk Rd
SW8, SW11
Battersea Power
Station SW8
Battle Bridge La SE1
Battle Bridge Rd NW1
Batty St E1
Baxendale St E2
Bayham St NW1
Baylis Rd SE1
Bayswater Rd W2

B

13 A3
7 C3
16 F2
6 E4
1 B5
8 E4
13 B1
3 C5
12 D1
3 B4
12 D2
7 B3
6 E5
5 C2
23 C1
24 D1
21 B3
7 A4
15 B3
15 B1
15 A3
14 F3
7 A4
24 D1
13 B4
7 A5
17 C5
23 A2
6 E1
14 E3
7 B1
10 D2
18 D2
5 A2
8 E3
16 D4
6 E1
6 E2
8 E3
17 A3
17 A2
14 E5
3 A2
13 C1
7 A5
15 B1
7 A4
17 A3
11 C5
9 B1
15 B1
15 B1
7 A1
9 A1
7 A4
6 E1
8 D4
7 B3
11 A2
11 A2
19 A5
19 C5
20 D5
20 F5
20 F4
15 C4
5 B2
16 F1
8 E3
4 F1
14 E5
10 E3
11 A2

Beaconsfield Clo SE3
Beaconsfield Rd SE3
Beak St W1
Bear Gdns SE1
Bear La SE1
Beauchamp Pl SW3
Beaufort Gdns SW3
Beaufort St SW3

Beaufoy Wlk SE11
Beaumont Ave W14
Beaumont Cres W14
Beaumont Pl W1
Beaumont St W1
Beck Clo SE13
Bedale St SE1
Bedford Ave WC1
Bedford Gdns W8
Bedford Pl WC1
Bedford Row WC1
Bedford Sq WC1
Bedford St WC2
Bedford Way WC1
Bedfordbury WC2
Beech St EC2
Belfast Gdns SE3
Belgrave Ms North SW1
Belgrave Ms West SW1
Belgrave Pl SW1
Belgrave Rd SW1

Belgrave Sq SW1
Belgrave St WC1
Bell La E1
Bell St NW1
Bell Wharf La EC4
Bell Yd WC2
Bellot St SE10
Belvedere Rd SE1
Bernerton St N1
Bennett Gro SE13
Bentley St W1
Berkeley Sq W1
Berkeley St W1
Bermondsey Antiques
Mkt SE1
Bermondsey St SE1
Bermondsey Wall
East SE16
Bermondsey Wall
West SE16
Bernard St WC1
Berners St W1

Berry St EC1
Berwick St W1
Bessborough Pl SW1
Bessborough St SW1
Bethnal Grn Rd E1
Bethnal Grn Rd E2
Bethwin Rd SE5
Bevan St N1
Bevenden St N1
Bevington St SE16
Bevis Marks EC3
BFI Southbank SE1
Bickenhall St W1
Bidborough St WC1
Big Ben SW1
Billing Rd SW10
Billingsgate EC3
Bina Gdns SW5
Binney St W1
Birdcage Wlk SW1

Birkenhead St WC1
Bisham Gdns N6
Bishop King's Rd W14
Bishop St N1

24 F2
24 F2
12 F2
15 A3
14 F4
19 B1
19 B1
18 F3
19 A4
22 D2
17 B3
17 B3
5 A4
4 D5
23 A5
15 B4
13 B1
9 C4
5 B5
6 D5
5 B5
13 C3
5 B4
13 B2
7 A5
24 E2
12 D5
20 D1
20 D1
20 F2
21 A3
12 D5
5 C3
16 D1
3 A5
15 B2
14 D1
24 D1
14 D4
5 C1
23 A5
12 D1
12 E3
12 E3
15 C5
15 C4
16 F5
16 E4
5 C4
12 F1
13 A1
6 F4
13 A1
21 A3
21 A3
8 D4
8 F3
22 F5
7 A1
7 C3
16 F5
16 D1
14 D3
3 C5
5 B3
13 C5
18 E5
12 E2
12 F5
13 A5
5 C3
2 F1
17 A2
7 A1

Bishops Ave, The NW2	1 B1	Bream's Bldgs EC4	14 E1	Buckingham Palace		Canterbury PI SE17	22 F2
Bishop's Bridge Rd W2	10 E1	Brechin PI SW7	18 F2	Gardens SW1	12 E5	Capland St NW8	3 A4
Bishop's Rd SW11	19 B5	Brecon Rd W6	17 A4	Buckingham Palace		Caradoc Clo W2	9 C1
Bishopsgate EC2	8 D5	Bremner Rd SW7	10 F5	Rd SW1	20 E2	Caradoc St SE10	24 D1
	15 C1	Brendon St W1	11 B1	Buckingham St WC2	13 C3	Cardigan St SE11	22 D3
Bishopsgate Church		Bressenden PI SW1	20 F1	Buckland St N1	7 C2	Cardinal's Wharf SE1	15 A3
Yard EC2	15 C1	Brewer St W1	13 A2	Bull Wharf La EC4	15 A2	Cardington St NW1	5 A3
Bishopswold Rd N6	2 D1	Brick La E1, E2	8 E5	Bulls Gdns SW3	19 B2	Carey St WC2	14 D1
Black Prince Rd SE1	21 C2		8 E3	Bulmer PI W11	9 C3	Carlingford Rd NW3	1 B5
Black Prince Rd SE11	22 D2	Brick St W1	12 E4	Bunhill Fields EC1	7 B4	Carlisle La SE1	14 D5
Blackall St EC2	7 C4	Bridge PI SW1	20 F2	Bunhill Row EC1	7 B4		22 D1
Blackfriars Bridge EC4	14 F2	Bridge St SW1	13 C5	Burdett Ms W2	10 D1	Carlisle PI SW1	20 F1
Blackfriars La EC4	14 F2	Bridgefoot EC1	21 C3	Burgh House NW3	1 B4	Carlos PI W1	12 E3
Blackfriars Rd SE1	14 F3	Bridgeman St NW8	3 A2	Burgh St N1	6 F2	Carlow St NW1	4 F1
Blackfriars Underpass EC4	14 F2	Bridgeway St NW1	5 A2	Burling Grounds EC1	7 B4	Carlton House Terr SW1	13 A4
Blackheath SE3	24 D5	Bridport PI N1	7 B1	Burlington Arcade W1	12 F3	Carlisle Sq SW3	19 A3
Blackheath Ave SE10	24 D3	Bridstow PI W2	9 C1	Burlington Gdns W1	12 F3	Carlisle's House SW3	19 B4
Blackheath Hill SE10	23 B4	Brill PI NW1	5 B2	Burnaby St SW10	18 F5	Carmelite St EC4	14 E2
Blackheath Rise SE13	23 B5	Britannia Row N1	7 A1	Burney St SE10	23 B3	Carnaby St W1	12 F2
Blackheath Rd SE10	23 A4	Britannia St WC1	5 C3	Burnsall St SW3	19 B3	Carnegie St N1	6 D1
Blackheath Vale SE3	24 D5	Britannia Wlk N1	7 B3	Burlingwaite Rd SW6	17 C5	Carol St NW1	4 F1
Blackwall La SE10	24 E1	British Library WC1	5 B3	Burrell St SE1	14 F3	Caroline Gdns E2	8 D3
Blagrove Rd W10	9 A1	British Museum WC1	5 B5	Burslem St E1	16 F2	Caroline PI W2	10 D2
Blandford Sq NW1	3 B5	British Telecom		Burton St WC1	5 B4	Caroline Terr SW1	20 D2
Blandford St W1	12 D1	Tower W1	4 F5	Burton's Ct SW3	19 C3	Carriage Dri East SW11	20 C5
Blantyre St SW10	18 F5	Britannia Rd SW6	18 D5	Bury PI WC1	13 C1	Carriage Dri North SW11	19 D5
Blenheim Cres W11	9 A2	Britten St SW3	19 A3	Bury St EC3	16 D1		20 D4
Bletchley St N1	7 B2	Britton St EC1	6 F5	Bury St SW1	12 F3	Carriage Dri West SW11	19 C5
Blewcoat School SW1	13 A5	Brixton Rd SW9	22 E5	Bush House WC2	14 D2	Carroun Rd SW8	22 D5
Bliss Cres SE13	23 A5	Broad Sanctuary SW1	13 B5	Buttlesland St N1	7 C3	Carter La EC4	5 F3
Blisset St SE10	23 A4	Broad Wlk NW1	4 D2	Buxton St E1	8 E4	Cartwright Gdns WC1	14 B2
Blomfield St EC2	15 C1	Broad Wlk, The W8	10 E4	Byward St EC3	16 D2	Cartwright St E1	16 E2
Bloomfield Terr SW1	20 D3	Broadbridge Clo SE3	24 F3			Casson St E1	8 E5
Bloomsbury PI WC1	5 C5	Broadcasting House W1	12 E1	C		Castle Baynard St EC4	14 F2
Bloomsbury Sq WC1	5 C5	Broadgate Centre EC2	7 C5				15 A2
Bloomsbury St WC1	13 B1	Broadley St NW8	3 A5	Cable St E1	16 F2	Castle La SW1	12 F5
Bloomsbury Way WC1	13 C1	Broadley Terr NW1	3 B4	Cade Rd SE10	23 C4	Castletown Rd W14	17 A3
Blue Anchor Yrd E1	16 E2	Broadway SE1	14 E3	Cadogan Gate SW1	19 C2	Cathcart Rd SW10	18 B4
Blythe Rd W14	17 A1	Broadway SW1	13 A5	Cadogan Gdns SW3	19 C2	Cathedral St SE1	15 B3
Boadicea St N1	5 C1	Broadway Mkt E8	8 F1	Cadogan La SW1	20 D1	Catherine Gro SE10	23 A4
Boating Lake NW1	3 C3	Broadwick St W1	12 F2	Cadogan Pier SW3	19 B4	Catherine St WC2	13 C2
Boating Lake SW11	20 D5		13 A2	Cadogan PI SW1	19 C1	Catton St WC1	13 C1
Bolney St SW8	21 C5	Broken Wharf EC4	15 A2	Cadogan Sq SW1	19 C1	Causton St SW1	21 B2
Bolsover St W1	4 F5	Brompton Cemetery		Cadogan St SW3	19 C2	Cavendish Ave NW8	3 A2
Bolton Gdns SW5	18 D3	SW10	18 D4	Cale St SW3	19 A3	Cavendish PI W1	12 E1
Bolton St W1	12 E3	Brompton Oratory SW7	19 A1	Caledonian Rd N1	5 C2	Cavendish Sq W1	12 E1
Boltons, The SW10	18 E3	Brompton Pk Cres SW6	18 D4		6 D1	Cavendish St N1	7 B2
Bond Way SW8	21 C4	Brompton PI SW3	19 B1	Callender Rd SW7	10 F5	Caversham St SW3	19 C4
Bonhill St EC2	7 C4	Brompton Rd SW3	11 B5	Callow St SW3	18 F4	Caxton St SW13	13 A5
Bonnington Sq SW8	21 C4		19 B1	Calshot St N1	6 D2	Cedarne Rd SW6	18 D5
Boot St N1	7 C3	Brompton Sq SW3	19 B1	Calthorpe St WC1	6 D4	Cenotaph SW1	13 B4
Borough High St SE1	15 B4	Bromwich Ave N6	2 F3	Calver Ave E2	8 D3	Central Criminal	
Borough Mkt SE1	15 B4	Bronsart Rd SW6	17 A5	Calvert Rd SE10	24 E1	Court EC4	14 F1
Borough Rd SE1	14 F5	Brook Dri SE11	22 E1	Calvin St E1	8 D5	Central Mkt WC2	13 C2
Borough Rd SE1	15 A5	Brook Gate W1	11 C3	Camberwell New Rd SE5	22 E5	Central St EC1	7 A3
Boscobel St NW8	3 A5	Brook Ms North W2	10 F2	Cambridge Circus WC2	13 B2	Chadwell St EC1	6 E3
Boston PI NW1	3 B4	Brook St W1	12 E2	Cambridge Gdns W10	9 A1	Chadwick St SW1	21 A1
Boswell St WC1	5 C5	Brook St W2	11 A2	Cambridge PI W8	10 E5	Chagford St NW1	3 C4
Boundary St E2	8 D4	Brooke St EC1	6 E5	Cambridge Sq W2	11 A1	Chaldon Rd SW6	17 A5
Bourdon St W1	12 E2	Brookmill Rd SE8	23 A5	Cambridge St SW1	20 F3	Challoner St W14	17 B3
Bourne St SW1	20 D2	Brook's Ms W1	12 E2	Camden High St NW1	4 F1	Chalton St NW1	5 A2
Bouverie PI W2	11 A1	Brookville Rd SW6	17 B5	Camden St NW1	4 F1	Chamber St E1	16 E2
Bouverie St EC4	14 E2	Brougham Rd E8	8 F1		5 A1	Chambers St SE16	16 F5
Bow La EC4	15 A2	Brown St W1	11 B1	Camden Wlk N1	6 F1	Chambord St E2	8 E3
Bow St WC2	13 C2	Brownlow Ms WC1	6 D4	Camera PI SW10	18 F4	Chance St E1, E2	8 D4
Bower Ave SE10	24 D3	Brownlow St WC1	6 D5	Camlet St E2	8 D4	Chancel St SE1	14 F4
Bowling Grn La EC1	6 E4	Brunswick Ct SE1	16 D5	Camley St NW1	5 A1	Chancery La WC2	14 D1
Bowling Grn St SE11	22 E4	Brunswick Gdns W8	10 D4	Campden Gro W8	9 C4	Chandos PI WC2	13 B3
Boyfield St SE1	14 F5	Brunswick PI N1	7 B3	Campden Hill W8	9 C4	Chandos St W1	12 E1
Brackley St EC1	7 A5	Brunswick Sq WC1	5 C4	Campden Hill Rd W11	9 C4	Chapel Mkt N1	6 E2
Brad St SE1	14 E4	Brunshfield St E1	8 D5	Campden Hill Sq W8	9 B4	Chapel Side W2	10 D2
Braganza St SE17	22 F3	Brunton La W1	12 E3	Campden St W8	9 C4	Chapel St NW1	3 B5
Braham St E1	16 E1	Bruton PI W1	12 E3	Canadian Embassy SW1	13 B3	Chapel St SW1	12 D5
Braidwood St SE1	15 C4	Bruton St W1	12 E3	Canal Wlk N1	7 B1	Chapter Rd SE17	22 F3
Bramber Rd W14	17 B4	Bryanston Ms East W1	11 C1	Canning PI W8	10 E5	Chapter St SW1	21 A2
Bramerton St SW3	19 A4	Bryanston PI W1	11 B1	Cannon La NW3	1 B4	Charing Cross Pier WC2	13 C3
Bramham Gdns SW5	18 D2	Bryanston Sq W1	11 C1	Cannon PI NW3	1 B4	Charing Cross Rd WC2	13 B1
Branch Hill NW3	1 A4	Bryanston St W1	11 C2	Cannon Row SW1	13 B5	Charlbert St NW8	3 A2
Branch PI N1	7 B1	Buck Hill Wlk W2	11 A3	Cannon St EC4	15 A2	Charles Dickens	
Brand St SE10	23 B3	Buckingham Gate SW1	12 F5	Cannon St Rd E1	16 F1	Museum W1	6 D4
Bray PI SW3	19 C2		12 A5	Canon St N1	7 A1	Charles La NW8	3 A2
Bread St EC4	15 A2	Buckingham Palace SW1	13 F5	Canrobert St E2	8 F2	Charles Sq N1	7 C2

Each place name is followed by its postal district number and then by its Street Finder reference

Charles St W1 12 E3
Charles II St SW1 13 A3
Charleville Rd W14 17 A3
Charlotte Rd EC2 7 C3
Charlotte St W1 4 F5
5 A5
13 A1
Charlotte Terr N1 6 D1
Charlton PI N1 6 F1
Charlton Way SE3 24 D4
Charlwood St SW1 20 F3
21 A2
Charrington St NW1 5 A2
Chart St N1 7 C3
Charterhouse Sq EC1 6 F5
Charterhouse St EC1 6 F5
Cheapside EC2 15 A1
Chelsea Bridge SW1 20 E4
Chelsea Bridge Rd SW1, SW8 20 D3
Chelsea Embankment SW3 19 B4
20 D4
19 B3
19 A4
Chelsea Manor St SW3 19 B3
Chelsea Old Church SW3 19 A4
Chelsea Physic Garden SW3 19 C4
Chelsea Pk Gdns SW3 18 F4
Chelsea Sq SW3 19 A3
Cheltenham Terr SW3 19 C3
Chenies Ms WC1 5 A4
Chenies St WC1 5 A5
Cheniston Gdns W8 18 D1
Chepstow Cres W11 9 C2
Chepstow Pl W2 9 C2
Chepstow Rd W2 9 C1
Chepstow Vlls W11 9 C2
Chequer St EC1 7 B4
Cherbury St N1 7 C2
Chesham Pl SW1 20 D1
Chesham St SW1 20 D1
Cheshire St E2 8 E4
Chesson Rd W14 17 B4
Chester Gate NW1 4 E3
Chester Ms SW1 12 E5
4 D3
Chester Rd NW1 20 D2
Chester Row SW1 20 D1
Chester Sq SW1 20 E2
Chester St SW1 12 E5
Chester Terr NW1 4 E3
Chester Way SE11 22 E2
Chesterfield Wlk SE10 23 C4
Cheval Pl SW7 19 B1
Chevening Rd SE10 24 F1
19 B4
19 A5
14 D4
21 A3
8 E5
4 D5
12 D1
8 E4
24 F1
10 F1
10 F2
7 B5
Christ Church, Spitalfields E1 8 E5
1 B4
19 C4
24 D1
16 F1
7 C5
22 E5
1 A5
3 A5
20 F3
20 F3
13 B4
5 A3
22 F2

Churton St SW1 20 F2
Circus St SE10 23 B3
City Garden Row N1 6 F2
7 A2
6 F2
7 B3
7 A2
19 C1
10 D3
22 D5
8 F2
6 E2
6 E2
23 A2
4 F3
12 F4
11 A2
9 A2
20 F3
18 F2
18 F2
12 E3
8 D1
21 A3
22 D4
22 E4
22 E3
22 E3
17 B4
15 C2
13 C3
7 C4
6 E4
6 E5
10 E2
10 E2
4 F5
10 F1
12 F2
7 C4
15 B3
15 B3
4 F5
20 D2
6 F5
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8 D4
17 C2
8 F2
3 A2
14 F1
13 B3
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18 E2
23 A5
15 B5
6 F2
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18 D3
7 A1
15 B1
24 E2
6 D4
5 A1
15 B2
5 C2
6 D2
18 E2
18 D2
18 E2
22 F1
24 E1
5 C4
8 D3
9 B2
9 B2
9 B2
9 B2
24 E3

Combe Ms SE3 24 E3
Combedale Rd SE10 24 F1
Comeragh Rd W14 17 A3
Commercial Rd E1 16 E1
Commercial St E1 8 D5
Commerell St SE10 24 D1
Compton Ave N1 1 C1
Compton St EC1 6 F4
Concert Hall Approach SE1 14 D4
Conduit Ms W2 10 F2
Conduit St W1 12 F2
Conington Rd SE13 23 A5
Conley St SE10 24 E1
Connaught Pl W2 11 C2
Connaught Sq W2 11 B2
Connaught St W2 11 B2
Constantine Rd NW3 2 D5
Constitution Hill SW1 12 E5
Cook's Rd SE17 22 F4
Coomer Pl SW6 17 C4
Coopers La NW1 5 B2
Cooper's Row EC3 16 D2
Cope Pl W8 17 C1
Copenhagen St N1 5 C1
Copenhagen St N1 6 D1
Copperas St SE8 23 A2
Copperfield St SE1 14 F4
15 A4
15 B1
13 B1
14 E5
5 C4
12 F3
15 C2
9 A2
18 E1
14 E4
3 C4
7 C3
6 E4
7 B3
5 C5
22 D1
3 B5
19 A1
18 E1
22 F2
22 E2
19 C2
15 C4
8 D5
14 D2
22 D3
18 E2
18 E2
2 E5
9 C1
15 B3
2 F3
13 C2
13 A3
6 F5
7 B4
4 D5
23 C1
5 A2
18 F3
18 F3
22 E5
7 B3
10 F2
10 E2
10 F2
13 B3
10 F2
6 E4
11 B1
3 C5
16 D1
14 F2

Creek Rd SE8 23 A2
Cremor St E2 8 D2
Cremorne Rd SW10 18 F5
Cresswell Gdns SW5 18 E3
Cresswell Pl SW10 18 E3
Cressy Rd NW3 2 D5
Crestfield St WC1 5 C3
Crewdson Rd SW9 22 D5
Crimsworth Rd SW8 21 B5
Crianan St N1 5 C2
Cringale St SW8 20 F5
Criston St E8 8 D5
Croftdown Rd NW5 2 F4
Cromer St WC1 5 C3
Cromwell Cres SW5 17 C2
Cromwell Gdns SW7 19 A1
Cromwell Pl SW7 19 A1
Cromwell Rd SW5 18 D2
Cromwell Rd SW7 18 F1
Crandall St N1 7 C2
Croom's Hill SE10 23 C3
Croom's Hill Gro SE10 23 B3
Croyley St N1 7 B2
Crosby Row SE1 15 B5
Croston St E8 8 F1
Crown Office Row EC4 14 E2
Crowndale Rd NW1 4 F2
5 A1
15 C4
6 F1
16 D2
19 C2
12 D3
3 B2
17 A2
11 C2
4 F3
11 C2
20 F3
4 E2
Cumberland Terr Ms NW1 4 E2
Cumming St N1 6 D2
Cundy St SW1 20 D2
Cureton St SW1 21 B2
Curlew St SE1 16 E4
Cursitor St EC4 14 E1
Curtain Rd EC2 7 C3
Curzon St W1 12 D4
Cut, The SE1 14 E4
Cutlers Gdns E1 16 D1
Cuttys Sark SE10 23 B2
Cynthia St N1 6 D2
Cyrus St EC1 6 F4

D

D'Arbly St W1 13 A2
Dabin Cres SE10 23 A4
Dacre St SW1 13 A5
Dallington St EC1 6 F4
Dame St N1 7 A2
Danbury St N1 6 F2
Dante Rd SE11 22 F2
Danube St SW3 19 B3
Danvers St SW3 19 A4
Dartmouth Clo W11 9 C1
Dartmouth Gro SE10 23 B5
Dartmouth Hill SE10 23 B4
Dartmouth Row SE10 23 B5
Dartmouth St SW1 13 A5
Davidson Gdns SW8 21 B5
Davies St W1 12 E2
Dawes Rd SW6 17 A5
Dawson Pl W2 9 C2
Dawson St E2 8 E2
De Beauvoir Cres N1 7 C1
De Laune St SE17 22 F3
De Vere Gdns W8 10 E5
Deal St E1 8 F5
Dean Ryle St SW1 21 B1

Dean St W1	13 A1	Duke of Wellington		Edith Vils W14	17 B2	F	
Dean's Yd SW1	13 B5	PI SW1	12 D5	Edwardes Sq W8	17 C1	Fabian Rd SW6	17 B5
Decima St SE1	15 C5	Duke of York St SW1	13 A3	Effie Rd SW6	17 C5	Fair St SE1	16 D4
Delaford St SW6	17 A5	Duke St SW1	12 F3	Egerton Cres SW3	19 B1	Fairclough St E1	16 F1
Delancey St NW1	4 E1	Duke St W1	12 D2	Egerton Dri SE10	23 A4	Fairholme Rd W14	17 A3
Delverton Rd SE17	22 F3	Duke St Hill SE1	15 B3	Egerton Gdns SW3	19 B1	Fakruddin St E1	8 F4
Denbigh PI SW1	20 F3	Duke's La W8	10 D4	Egerton PI SW3	19 B1	Falconwood Ct SE3	24 E5
Denbigh Rd W11	9 B2	Duke's Rd WC1	5 B3	Egerton Terr SW3	19 B1	Falkirk St N1	8 D2
Denbigh St SW1	20 F2	Duke's PI EC3	16 D1	Elaine Gro NW5	2 E5	Farn Museum SE10	23 B3
Denbigh Terr W11	9 B2	Dunbridge St E2	8 F4	Elcho St SW11	19 B5	Fane St W14	17 B4
Denham St SE10	24 F1	Duncan Rd E8	8 F1	Elder St E1	8 D5	Fann St EC1	7 A5
Denman St W1	13 A2	Duncan St N1	6 F2	Eldon Gro NW3	1 B5	Fanshaw St N1	7 C3
Denning Rd NW3	1 B5	Duncan Terr N1	6 F2	Eldon Rd W8	18 E1	Faraday Museum W1	12 F3
Dennis Severs' House E1	8 D5	Dunloe St E2	8 E2	Eldon St SW11	7 C5	Farm La SW6	17 C5
Denny St SE11	22 D2	Dunraven St W1	11 C2	Elgin Cres W11	9 A2	Farm St W1	12 E3
Denyer St SW3	19 B2	Dunston Rd E8	8 D1	Elia St N1	6 F2	Farmer's Rd SE5	22 F5
Derbyshire St E2	8 F3	Dunston St E8	8 D1	Eliot Hill SE13	23 B5	Farncombe St SE16	16 F5
Dereham PI EC2	8 D4	Durant St E2	8 F2	Eliot PI SE3	24 D5	Farnham Royal SE11	22 D3
Dericote St E8	8 F1	Durham St SE11	22 D3	Eliot Vale SE3	23 C5	Farrington La EC1	6 E4
Derry St W8	10 D5	Durham Terr W2	10 D1	Elizabeth Bridge SW1	20 E2	Farrington Rd EC1	6 E4
Design Museum W8	9 C5	Durward St E1	8 F5	Elizabeth St SW1	20 E2	Farrington St EC4	14 F1
Devonshire Clo W1	4 E5	Dutton St SE10	23 B4	Ellen St E1	16 F2	Fashion and Textile	
Devonshire Dri SE10	23 A4	Dyott St WC1	13 B1	Ellerdale Clo NW3	1 A5	Museum SE1	15 C4
Devonshire PI W1	4 D5			Ellerdale Rd NW3	1 A5	Fashion St E1	8 E5
Devonshire Sq EC2	16 D1	E		Elliott's Row SE1	22 F1	Faunce St SE17	22 F3
Devonshire St W1	4 E5	Eagle Ct EC1	6 F5	Elm Pk Gdns SW10	18 F3	Fawcett St SW10	18 E4
Devonshire Terr W2	10 F2	Eagle St WC1	13 C1		19 A3	Feathers PI SE10	23 C2
Dewey Rd N1	6 E1	Eagle Wharf Rd N1	7 A2	Elm Pk Rd SW3	18 F4	Featherstone St EC1	7 B4
Diamond Terr SE10	23 B4	Emamot St NW8	3 B2		19 A3	Felton St N1	7 B1
Diana, Princess of		Earl St EC2	7 C5	Elm PI SW7	18 F3	Fenchurch Ave EC3	15 C2
Wales Memorial		Earlham St WC2	13 B2	Elm St WC1	6 D4	Fenchurch Bldgs EC3	16 D2
Playground W2	10 D3	Earl's Court Exhibition		Elsham Rd W14	9 A5	Fenchurch St EC3	15 C2
Dilke St SW3	19 C4	Centre SW5	17 C3	Elvaston PI SW7	18 E1		16 D2
Dingley Rd EC1	7 A3	Earl's Court Gdns SW5	18 D2	Elverson Rd SE8	23 A5	Fentiman Rd SW8	21 C4
Dinsdale Rd SE3	24 E2	Earl's Court Rd SW5,	18 D2	Elverton St SW1	21 A1		22 D5
Disbrowe Rd W6	17 A4	W8	17 C1	Elwin St E2	8 E3	Fenton House NW3	1 A4
Disney PI SE1	15 A4	Earl's Court Sq SW5	18 D3	Elystan PI SW3	19 B2	Fernshaw Rd SW10	18 E4
Diss St E2	8 E2	Earl's Terr W8	17 B1	Elystan St SW3	19 B2	Ferry St E14	23 B1
Ditch Alley SE10	23 A4	Earl's Wik W8	17 C1	Emba St SE16	16 F5	Festival/South Bank	
Dock St E1	16 E2	Earlswood St SE10	24 D1	Embankment Gdns SW3	19 C4	Pier SE1	14 D3
Dockhead SE1	16 E5	Earsby St W14	17 A2	Emerald St WC1	6 D5	Fetter La EC4	14 E1
Dor Johnson's House EC4	14 E1	East Ferry Rd E14	23 A1	Emerson St SE1	15 A3	Field Rd W6	17 A4
Doddington Gro SE17	22 F3	East Heath NW3	1 B3	Emma St E2	8 F2	Fieldgate St E1	16 F1
Doddington PI SE17	22 F4	East Heath Rd NW3	1 B4	Emperor's Gate SW7	18 E1	Filmer Rd SW6	17 B5
Dodson St SE1	14 E5	East Pier E1	16 F4	Endell St WC2	13 B1	Finborough Rd SW10	18 E4
Dolben St SE1	14 F4	East Rd N1	7 B3	Endersby St SE10	24 D1	Fingal St SE10	24 F1
Dolphin Sq SW1	21 A3	East Smithfield E1	16 E3	Endsleigh Gdns WC1	5 A4	Finsbury Circus EC2	7 B5
Dombey St WC1	5 C5	East Tenter St E1	16 E2	Endsleigh St WC1	5 A4		15 B1
Donegal St N1	6 D2	Eastbourne Ms W2	10 F1	Enford St W1	3 B5	Finsbury Mkt EC2	7 C5
Donne PI SW3	19 B2	Eastbourne Terr W2	10 F1	English Grounds SE1	15 C4	Finsbury Pavement EC2	7 B5
Doon St SE1	14 E3	Eastcastle St W1	12 F1	Enid St SE16	16 E5	Finsbury Sq EC2	7 B5
Doric Way NW1	5 A3		13 A1	Ennismore Gdns SW7	11 A5	Finsbury St EC2	7 B5
Dorset Rd SW8	21 C5		15 C2	Ennismore Gdns Ms SW7	11 A5	First St SW3	19 B1
	22 D5	Eastcheap EC3	23 C1	Ensign St E1	16 F2	Fisherton St NW8	3 A4
Dorset St NW1, W1	3 C5	Eaenstey St SE10	20 D2	Epirus Rd SW6	17 C5	Fishmongers' Hall EC3	15 B2
Doughty Ms WC1	6 D4	Eaton Gate SW1	20 E1	Epworth St EC2	7 C4	Fitzalan St SE11	22 D2
Doughty St WC1	6 D4	Eaton La SW1	20 D1	Erasmus St SW1	21 B2	Fitzgeorge Ave W14	17 A2
Douglas St SW1	21 A2	Eaton Ms SW1	20 E1	Errol St EC1	7 B4	Fitzjames Ave W14	17 A2
Douro PI W8	10 E5		20 D1	Essex Rd N1	6 F1	Fitzjohn's Ave NW3	1 B5
Dove House St SW3	19 A3	Eaton Ms North SW1	20 D1	Essex St WC2	14 D2	Fitzroy Pk N6	2 E1
Dove Row E2	8 F1	Eaton Ms West SW1	20 D2	Essex Vils W8	9 C5	Fitzroy Sq W1	4 F4
Dover St W1	12 F3	Eaton PI SW1	20 D1	Estcourt Rd SW6	17 B5	Fitzroy St W1	4 F5
Down St W1	12 E4	Eaton Sq SW1	20 D1	Estelle Rd NW3	2 E5	Flask Wik NW3	1 B5
Downing St SW1	13 B4	Eaton Terr SW1	20 D2	Esterbrooke St SW1	21 A2	Fleaxman Terr WC1	5 B3
Downshire Hill NW3	1 C5	Elbisham Dri SW8	22 D4	Eustace Rd SW6	17 C5	Fleet Rd NW3	2 D5
Draycott Ave SW3	19 B2	Ebor St E1	8 D4	Euston Rd NW1	4 F4	Fleet St EC4	14 E1
Draycott PI SW3	19 C2	Ebury Bridge SW1	20 E2		5 A4	Fleming Rd SE17	22 F4
Draycott Terr SW3	19 C2	Ebury Bridge Rd SW1	20 E3		5 A3	Fleur de Lis St E1	8 D5
Drayton Gdns SW10	18 F3	Ebury Ms SW1	20 E1		5 A4	Filtcroft St WC2	13 B1
Druid St SE1	16 D4	Ebury Sq SW1	20 E2		18 F3	Flood St SW3	19 B3
Drummond Cres NW1	5 A3	Ebury St SW1	20 E2		7 B2	Flood Wik SW3	19 B3
Drummond Gate SW1	21 B3	Eccleston Bridge SW1	20 E2		4 F2	Floral St WC2	13 C2
Drummond St NW1	4 F4	Eccleston Ms SW1	20 D1		5 A3		
	5 A3	Eccleston PI SW1	20 E2		15 A4	Florence Nightingale	
Drury La WC2	13 C1	Eccleston Sq SW1	20 F2		13 C2	Museum SE1	14 D5
Drysdale St N1	8 D3	Eccleston St SW1	20 E1		11 A5	Florida St E2	8 F3
Duchess of Bedford's		Edge St W8	9 C4		19 A1	Flower Wik, The SW7	10 F5
Wik W8	9 C5	Edgware Rd W2	3 A5		6 E4	Foley St W1	4 F5
Duchess St W1	4 E5		11 B1		14 E4	Folgate St E1	8 D5
Duchy St SE1	14 E3	Edith Gro SW10	18 E4		6 E4	Forbes St E1	16 F2
Dufferin St EC1	7 B4	Edith Rd W14	17 A2		8 E3	Fordham St E1	16 F1
Duke Humphrey Rd SE3	24 D5	Edith Terr SW10	18 E5			Fore St EC2	7 B5

Each place name is followed by its postal district number and then by its Street Finder reference

Foreign & Commonwealth Office SW1 13 B4
Forset St W1 11 B1
Forston St N1 7 B2
Forsyth Gdns SE17 22 F4
Fortune St EC1 7 A4
Foster La EC2 15 A1
Foubert's PI W1 12 F2
Foulis Terr SW7 19 A2
Fount St SW8 21 B5
Fountains, The W2 10 F3
Fournier St E1 8 E5
Foxley Rd SW9 22 E5
Foyle Rd SE3 24 E2
Frampton St NW8 3 A4
Francis St SW1 20 F1

Franklins Row SW3 19 C3
Frazier St SE1 14 E5
Frederick St WC1 6 D3
Friend St EC1 6 F3
Frith St W1 13 A2
Frognaal NW3 1 A5
Frognaal Gdns NW3 1 A5
Frognaal La NW3 1 A5
Frognaal Rise NW3 1 A4
Frognaal Way NW3 1 A5
Frome St N1 7 A2
Fulham Broadway SW6 17 C5
Fulham Rd SW6 17 C5
Fulham Rd SW10 18 F4
Fulham Rd SW3 19 A2
Fulthorp Rd SE3 24 F5
Fulwood PI WC1 6 D5
Furnival St EC4 14 E1

G

Gabriel's Wharf SE1 14 E3
Gainsborough Gdns NW3 1 B4
Gainsford St SE1 16 D4
Galway St EC1 7 A3
Gambia St SE1 14 F4
Ganton St W1 12 F2
Garden History, Museum of SE1 21 C1
Garden Ms W2 11 A2
Garden Row SE1 22 F1
Garden Wlk EC2 7 C4
Gardners La EC4 15 A2
Garlick Hill EC4 15 A2
Garrett St W1 7 A4
Garrick St WC2 13 B2
Garway Rd W2 10 D2
Gascoigne PI E2 8 D3
Gasholder PI SE1 22 D3
Gaskin St N1 6 F1
Gatliff Rd SW1 20 E3
Gayfere St SW1 21 B1
Gayton Cres NW3 1 B5
Gayton Rd NW3 1 B5
Gaza St SE17 22 F3
Gee St EC1 7 A4
Geffrye Museum E2 8 D2
Geffrye St E2 8 D2
General Wolfe Rd SE10 23 C4
George Row SE16 16 E5
George St W1 12 D1
Georgette PI SE10 23 B3
Gerald Rd SW1 20 D2
Geraldine Mary Harmsworth Park SE11 22 E1
Geraldine St SE11 22 F1
Gerrard PI WC2 13 B2
Gerrard Rd N1 6 F2
Gerrard St W1 13 A2
Gerridge St SE1 14 E5
Gertrude St SW10 18 F4
Gibbs Grn W14 17 B3
Gibson Rd SE11 22 D2

Gibson Sq N1 6 E1
Gibson St SE10 24 D1
Gilbert Rd SE11 22 E2
Gilbert St W1 12 D2
Gillingham St SW1 20 F2
Gilston Rd SW10 18 F3
Giltspur St EC1 14 F1
Gipsy Moth IV SE10 23 B2
GLA Headquarters SE1 16 D4
Gladstone St SE1 22 F1
Glasgow Terr SW1 20 F3
Glasshill St SE1 14 F4
Glasshouse St W1 13 A3
Glasshouse Wlk SE11 21 C3
Glaz'bury Rd W14 17 A2
Glebe PI SW3 19 B4
Gledhow Gdns SW5 18 E2
Gledstanes Rd W14 17 A3
Glenhurst Ave NW5 2 F5
Glenister Rd SE10 24 E1
Glentworth St NW1 3 C4
Gliddon Rd W14 17 A2
Globe St SE1 15 B5
Gloucester Ave NW1 4 D1
Gloucester Circus SE10 23 B3
Gloucester Cres NW1 4 E1
Gloucester Gate NW1 4 E2
Gloucester Ms W2 10 F2
Gloucester Ms West W2 10 E1
Gloucester PI NW1 3 C4
Gloucester PI W1 11 C1
Gloucester PI Ms W1 11 C1
Gloucester Rd SW7 18 E1
Gloucester Sq W2 11 A2
Gloucester St SW1 20 F3
Gloucester Terr W2 10 E1
Gloucester Wlk W8 9 C4
Godfrey St SW3 19 B3
Godling St SE11 21 C3
Godson St N1 6 E2
Golfers Rd SE3 24 D5
Golfer La EC1 7 A4
Goldington Cres NW1 5 A1
Goldington St NW1 5 A2
Goldsmith's Row E2 8 F2
Goldsmith's Sq E2 8 F2
Goode PI W1 5 A5
Goode St W1 5 A5
Goodmans Yd E1 16 E2
Goods Way NW1 5 B2
Gopsall St N1 7 B1
Gordon House Rd NW5 2 F5
Gordon Sq WC1 5 A4
Gordon St WC1 5 A4
Gorleston St W14 17 A2
Gorsuch St E2 8 D2
Gosfield St W1 4 F5
Gosset St E2 8 E3
Goswell Rd EC1 6 F3
Gough St WC1 6 D4
Goulston St E1 16 D1
Gower PI WC1 5 A4
Gower St WC1 5 A4
Gower's Wlk E1 16 E1
Gracechurch St EC3 15 C2
Grafton PI NW1 5 A3
Grafton St W1 12 F3
Grafton Way W1 4 F4
Grafton Way WC1 5 A4
Graham St N1 6 F2
Graham Terr SW1 20 D2
Granary Square NW1 5 B1
Granary St NW1 5 B1
Granby St E2 8 E4
Granby Terr NW1 4 F2
Grand Union Canal N1 7 A1
Grand Union Canal NW1 5 B1
Grant Museum of Zoology NW1 5 A4

Grant St N1 6 E2
Grantbridge St N1 6 F1
Granville PK SE13 23 C5
Granville Sq WC1 6 D3
Gratton Rd W14 17 A1
Gravel La E1 16 D1
Gray St SE1 14 E5
Gray's Inn WC1 6 D5
Gray's Inn Gardens WC1 6 D5
Gray's Inn Rd WC1 5 C3
Great Castle St W1 12 F1
Great College St SW1 21 B1
Great Cumberland PI W1 11 C2
Great Dover St SE1 15 B5
Great Eastern St EC2 7 C4
Great George St SW1 13 B5
Great Guildford St SE1 15 A4
Great James St WC1 6 D5
Great Marlborough St W1 12 F2
Great Maze Pond SE1 15 B4
Great Newport St WC2 13 B2
Great Ormond St WC1 5 C5
Great Percy St WC1 6 D3
Great Peter St SW1 21 B1
Great Portland St W1 4 F5
Great Pulteney St W1 13 A2
Great Queen St WC2 13 C1
Great Russell St WC1 13 B1
Great Scotland Yd SW1 13 B3
Great Smith St SW1 13 B5
Great St Helen's EC3 15 C1
Great Suffolk St SE1 14 F4
Great Sutton St EC1 6 F4
Great Titchfield St W1 4 F5
Great Tower St EC3 15 C2
Great Western Rd W11 9 C1
Great Winchester St EC2 15 C1
Great Windmill St W1 13 A2
Greatorex St E1 8 E5
Greek St W1 13 A2
Green Hill NW3 1 B5
Green Park SW1 12 E4
Green St W1 12 D2
Greencoat PI SW1 21 A1
Greenfield Rd E1 16 F1
Greenwell St W1 4 F5
Greenwich Church St SE10 23 B2
Greenwich District Hospital SE10 24 E1
Greenwich Foot Tunnel E14, SE10 23 B1
Greenwich High Rd SE10 23 A3
Greenwich Park SE10 23 C3
Greenwich Pier SE10 23 B1
Greenwich South St SE10 23 A4
Greet St SE1 14 E4
Grendon St NW8 3 A4
Grenville PI SW7 18 E1
Grenville St WC1 5 C4
Gresham St EC2 15 A1
Greville St EC1 6 E5
Grey Eagle St E1 8 D5
Greycoat PI SW1 21 A1
Greycoat St SW1 21 A1
Greyhound Rd W14 17 A4
Grosvenor Cres SW1 12 D5
Grosvenor Cres Ms SW1 12 D5
Grosvenor Gdns SW1 20 E1
Grosvenor Gate W1 11 C3
Grosvenor PI SW1 12 D5
Grosvenor Rd SW1 20 E4
Grosvenor Sq W1 12 D2
Grosvenor St W1 12 E2
Grote's PI SE3 24 D5

Grove Terr NW5 2 F4
Grove, The N6 2 F1
Guards' Museum SW1 13 A5
Guildford Gro SE10 23 A4
Guildhall EC2 15 B1
Guildhouse St SW1 20 F2
Guilford St WC1 5 C4
Gunter Gro SW10 18 E4
Gunterstone Rd W14 17 A2
Gunthorpe St E1 16 E1
Gutter La EC2 15 A1
Guy St SE1 15 C4
Guy's Hospital EC1 15 B4
Gwendwr Rd W14 17 A3

H
Haberdasher St N1 7 B3
Hackford Rd SW9 22 D5
Hackney Rd E2 8 E2
Haddo St SE10 23 A2
Hadrian St SE10 24 D1
Haggerston Park E2 8 E2
Haggerston Rd E8 8 E1
Halcorn St N1 7 C1
Haldane Rd SW6 17 B5
Half Moon St W1 12 E4
Hallam Cres N1 6 D1
Halford Rd SW6 17 C4
Halkin St SW1 12 D5
Hall PI W2 3 A5
Hall St EC1 6 F3
Hallam St W1 4 E5
Hallfield Estate W2 10 E1
Halsey St SW3 19 C2
Halstow Rd SE10 24 F1
Hamilton PI W1 12 D4
Hammersmith Rd W14 17 A2
Hampstead Gro NW3 1 A4
Hampstead Heath N6 1 C2
Hampstead High St NW3 1 B5
Hampstead Hill Gdns NW3 1 C5
Hampstead La NW3 1 B1
Hampstead La N6 2 D1
Hampstead Ponds NW3 1 C4
Hampstead Rd NW1 4 F2
Hampstead Way NW11 1 A1
Hanbury St E1 8 E5
Handel St WC1 5 C4
Handforth Rd SW9 22 D5
Hankey PI EC1 15 B5
Hannell Rd SW6 17 A5
Hanover Gate NW1 3 B3
Hanover PI WC2 13 C2
Hanover Sq W1 12 E2
Hanover St W1 12 F2
Hanover Terr NW1 3 B3
Hans Cres SW1 11 C5
Hans PI SW1 19 C1
Hans Rd SW3 11 C5
Hans St SW1 19 C1
Hanson St W1 4 F5
Hanway PI W1 13 A1
Hanway St W1 13 A1
Harcourt St W1 3 B5
Harcourt Terr SW10 18 E3
Hardwick St EC1 6 E3
Hardwidge St SE1 15 C4
Hardy Rd SE3 24 F2
Hare & Billet Rd SE3 23 C5
Hare Wlk N1 8 D2
Harewood Ave NW1 3 B4
Harley Gdns SW10 18 F3
Harley PI W1 12 E1
Harley St W1 4 E5
Harleyford Rd SE11 21 C3
Harmsworth St SE17 22 F3
Harper Rd SE1 15 A5

Harpur St WC1	5 C5	Hillgate Pl W8	9 C3	Hyde Pk Gdns W2	11 A2	Keeton's Rd SE16	16 F5
Harriet Wlk SW1	11 C5	Hillgate St W8	9 C3	Hyde Pk Sq W2	11 A2	Kelsey St E2	8 F4
Harrington Gdns SW7	18 E2	Hillingdon St SE5	22 F5	Hyde Pk St W2	11 B2	Kelso Pl W8	18 D1
Harrington Rd SW7	18 F2	Hillsleigh Rd W8	9 B4	Hyde Rd N1	7 C1	Kemble St WC2	13 C2
	19 A2	Hillway N6	2 F2	Hyde Vale SE10	23 C4	Kemplay Rd NW3	1 B5
Harrington Sq NW1	4 F2	Hindmarsh Clo E1	16 F2			Kempford Gdns SW5	18 D3
Harrington St NW1	4 F3	HMS Belfast SE1	16 D3	I		Kempford Rd SE11	22 E2
Harrison St WC1	5 C3	Hobart Pl SW1	20 E1	I		Kensing Rd SE10	24 F1
Harrow Rd W2	3 A5	Hobury St SW10	18 F4	Ifield Rd SW10	18 E4	Kenchester Clo SW8	21 C5
Harrowby St W1	11 B1	Hogarth Rd SW5	18 D2	Ilchester Gdns W2	10 D2	Kendal Clo SW9	22 F5
Hart St EC3	16 D2	Holbein Pl SW1	20 D2	Ilchester Pl W14	9 B5	Kendal St W2	11 B2
Hartington Rd SW8	21 B5	Holborn EC1	14 E1	Imperial College Rd SW7	18 F1	Kenley Wlk W11	9 A3
Hartismere Rd SW6	17 B5	Holborn Circus E4	14 E1	Imperial War		Kenner St E1	16 F3
Harvey St N1	7 C1	Holburn Viaduct EC1	14 F1	Museum SE11	22 E1	Kennington Gro SE11	22 D4
Harwood Rd SW6	18 D5	Holford Rd NW3	1 B4	Inglebert St EC1	6 E3	Kennington La SE11	22 D3
Hasker St SW3	19 B1	Holford St WC1	6 D3	Ingleside Gro SE3	24 F2	Kennington Oval SE11	22 D4
Hastings St WC1	5 B3	Holland Gdns W14	17 A1	Ingram Ave NW11	1 B1	Kennington Park SE11	22 E4
Hatfields SE1	14 E3	Holland Gro SW9	22 E5	Inner Circle NW1	4 D3	Kennington Pk	
Hatton Pl EC1	6 E5	Holland House W8	9 B5	Inner Temple Gdns EC4	14 E2	Gdns SE11	22 F4
Havelock St N1	5 C1	Holland Pk W8	9 B4	Institute of		Kennington Pk Rd SE11	22 E4
Hay Hill W1	12 F3	Holland Pk W11	9 A4	Contemporary Arts		Kennington Rd SE1	22 E1
Hay St E2	8 F1	Holland Pk Ave W11	9 A4	SW1	13 B3	Kennington Church	
Haydon St EC3	16 D2	Holland Pk Gdns W14	9 A4	Inverforth Clo NW3	1 A3	St W8	10 D4
Hayles St SE11	22 F1	Holland Pk Ms W11	9 B4	Inverness Ms W2	10 E2	Kennington Ct Pl W8	10 E5
Haymarket SW1	13 A3	Holland Pk Rd W14	17 B1	Inverness Pl W2	10 E2	Kennington Ct W8	10 E5
Hay's La SE1	15 C3	Holland Rd W14	9 A5	Inverness Terr W2	10 E2	Kennington Gardens W2	10 E4
Hay's Ms W1	12 E3		17 A1	Ironmonger La EC2	15 B1	Kennington Gdns Sq W2	10 D2
Hayward Gallery SE1	14 D3	Holland St SE1	14 F3	Ironmonger Row EC1	7 A3	Kennington Gate W8	10 E5
Healitt Rd W14	17 A1	Holland St W8	10 D5	Island Gardens E14	23 B1	Kennington Gore SW7	10 F5
Headfort Pl SW1	12 D5	Holland Vils Rd W14	9 A5	Islington Grn Gdns N1	6 F1	Kennington High St W8	9 C5
Hearn St EC2	7 C4	Holland Wlk W8	9 B4	Islington High St N1	6 E2		10 D5
Heath Brow NW3	1 A3	Holles St W1	12 E1	Ivorna Ct W8	10 D5	Kennington High St W14	17 B1
Heath Hurst Rd NW3	1 C5	Holly Bush Vale NW3	1 A5	Ivorna Gdns W8	18 D1	Kennington Palace W8	10 D4
Heath Side NW3	1 C4	Holly Hill NW1	1 A4	Ives St SW3	19 B2	Kennington Palace	
Heath St NW3	1 A4	Holly Lodge Gdns N6	2 E2	Ivor Pl NW1	3 B4	Gdns W8	10 D3
Heath Way SE3	24 F3	Holly Wlk NW3	1 A5	Ivy St N1	7 C2	Kennington Pk Gdns W11	9 B3
Heathcote St WC1	5 C4	Hollymount Clo SE10	23 B4	Ixworth Pl SW3	19 B2	Kennington Pk Rd W11	9 B2
Heddon St W1	12 F2	Hollywood Rd SW10	18 E4			Kennington Pl W8	9 C4
Helmet Row EC1	7 A4	Holmead Rd SW6	18 E5	J		Kennington Rd W7, W8	10 E5
Hemans St SW8	21 B5	Holywell La EC2	8 D4	Jackman St E8	8 F1	Kennington Rd SW7	11 A5
Hemingford Rd N1	6 D1	Holyoak Rd SE11	22 F2	Jacob St SE1	16 E5	Kennington Roof	
Hemming St E1	8 F4	Holyrood St SE1	15 C4	Jamaica Rd SE1	16 E5	Gardens W8	10 D5
Hemsworth St N1	7 C2	Homers Row W1	11 B1	Jamaica Rd SE16	16 F5	Kennington Sq W8	10 D5
Heneage St E1	8 E5	Homestead Rd SW6	17 B5	James St W1	12 D1	Kent Pas NW1	3 B4
Henrietta Pl W1	51 E2	Hooper St E1	16 E2	James St WC2	13 C2	Kent St E2	8 E2
Henrietta St WC2	13 C2	Hoptown St E1	8 E5	Jameson St W8	9 C3	Kentish Bldgs SE1	15 B4
Henriques St E1	16 F1	Hopton St SE1	14 F3	Jammie Masjid E1	8 E5	Kenton St WC1	5 B4
Herbal Hill EC1	6 E5	Horatio St E2	8 E2	Janeway St SE16	16 F5	Kenway Rd SW5	18 D2
Herbrand St WC1	5 B4	Horbury Cres W11	9 C3	Jay Ms SW7	10 F5	Kenwood Clo NW3	1 B1
Hercules Rd SE1	14 D5	Hornton St W8	10 D5	Jermyn St SW1	12 F3	Kenwood House N6	1 C1
	22 D1	Horse Guards SW1	13 B4	Jewel Tower SW1	13 B5	Keyworth St SE1	14 F5
Hereford Rd W2	9 C1	Horseferry Pl SE10	23 A2	Jewish Museum NW1	4 E1	Kidbrooke Gdns SE3	24 F5
	10 D2	Horseferry Rd SW1	21 B1	Jewry St EC3	16 D2	Kildare Gdns W2	10 D1
Hereford St E2	8 F4	Horseguards Ave SW1	13 B4	Joan St SE1	14 F4	Kildare Terr W2	10 D1
Hermit St EC1	6 F3	Hortensia Rd SW10	18 E5	Jockey's Fields WC1	6 D5	Killick St N1	5 C2
Herrick St SW1	21 B2	Hosier La EC1	14 F1	John Adam St WC2	13 C3	Kiln Pl NW5	2 F5
Hertford St W1	12 E4	Hoskins St SE10	23 C1	John Carpenter St EC4	14 E2	King St EC2	15 B1
Hesper Ms SW5	18 D2	Houghton St WC2	14 D2	John Fisher St E1	16 E2	King St SW1	12 F4
Hessel St E1	16 F1	Houndsditch EC3	16 D1	John Islip St SW1	21 B2		13 A3
Hester Rd SW11	19 B5	Household Cavalry		John Penn St SE13	23 A4	King St WC2	13 B2
Hewett St EC2	8 D4	Museum SW1	13 B4	John Ruskin St SE5	22 F5	King Charles St SW1	13 B5
Hexagon, The N6	2 E2	Houses of Parliament		John's Ms WC1	6 D5	King Edward St EC1	15 A1
Heyford Ave SW8	21 C5	SW1	13 C5	John's St WC1	6 D5	King Edward Wlk SE1	22 E1
Heysham La NW3	1 A4	Howick Pl SW1	21 A1	Johnson's Pl SW1	20 F3	King George St SE10	23 B3
Hide Pl SW1	21 A2	Howie St SW11	19 B5	Jonathan St SE11	22 D2	King James St SE1	14 F5
High Bridge SE10	23 C1	Howland St W1	4 F5	Jubilee Footbridges SE1	13 C3	King William St EC4	15 B2
High Holborn WC1	6 D5	How's St E2	8 D2	Jubilee Gardens SE1	14 D4	King William Wlk SE10	23 B2
	13 B1	Hoxton Sq N1	7 C3	Jubilee Pl SW3	19 B3	Kingly St W1	12 F2
	14 D1	Hoxton St N1	7 C1	Judd St SW1	5 B3	King's Bench Wlk EC4	14 E2
High Timber St EC4	15 A2	Hugh St SW1	20 E2	Judges Wlk NW3	1 A4	King's Head Yd SE1	15 B4
Highfields Grn N6	2 E2	Humber Rd SE3	24 E2	Juer St SW11	19 B5	Kings Rd SW3	19 A4
Highgate Cemetery N6	2 F2	Humbolt Rd W6	17 A4	Juxon St SE11	22 D1	King's Rd SW6, SW10	18 E5
Highgate Clo N6	2 E1	Hungerford Foot				King's Scholars Pas SW1	20 F1
Highgate High St N6	2 F1	Bridge SE1	13 C3	K		King's Terr NW1	4 F1
Highgate Ponds N6	2 F3	Hunter St WC1	5 C4	Kay St E2	8 F2	King's Cross Rd WC1	5 C2
Highgate Rd NW5	2 E4	Hunterian Museum WC2	14 D1	Kean St WC2	13 C2		6 D3
Highgate West Hill N6	2 E2	Huntley St WC1	5 A4	Keat's Gro NW3	1 C5	Kingsland Basin N1	8 D1
Highmore Rd SE3	24 E3	Hunton St E1	8 E5	Keats House NW3	1 C5	Kingsland Rd E2	8 D1
Highway, The E1	16 F2	Hyde Park W2	11 B3	Keep, The SE3	24 F5	Kingsmill Ter NW8	3 A2
Hilary Clo SW6	18 D5	Hyde Pk Corner W1	12 D4			Kingstown St NW1	4 D1
Hill St W1	12 E3	Hyde Pk Cres W2	11 A1			Kingsway WC2	13 C1
Hill, The NW3	1 A2	Hyde Pk Gate SW7	10 E5			Kinnerton St SW1	11 C5

Kinnoul Rd W6
Kipling St SE1
Kirby Gro SE1
Kirby St EC1
Kirtling St SW8
Kirtou Gdns E2
Knarborough Pl SW5
Knighten St E1
Knightrider St EC4
Knightsbridge SW1
Knivet Rd SW6
Knox St W1
Kynance Pl SW7

17 A4
15 C5
15 C4
6 E5
20 F4
8 E3
18 D2
16 F4
14 F2
12 D5
17 C4
3 C5
18 E1

Leather La EC1
Leathermarket St SE1
Leathwell Rd SE13
Ledbury Rd W11
Leeke St WC1
Lees Pl W1
Leicester Pl WC2
Leicester Sq WC2
Leicester St WC2
Leigh St WC1
Leighton House W14
Leinster Gdns W2
Leinster Pl W2
Leinster Sq W2
Leinster Terr W2
Leman St E1
Lennox Gdns Ms SW1
Lennox Gdns SW1
Leonard St EC2
Lethbridge Clo SE13
Lettestone Rd SW6
Lever St EC1
Lewisham Hill SE13
Lewisham Rd SE13
Lexham Gdns W8
Lexington St W1
Leyden St E1
Library St SE1
Lidlington Pl NW1
Lilestone St NW8
Lillie Rd SW6
Lime St EC3
Limerston St SW10
Lincoln's Inn Fields WC2
Lincoln's Inn WC2
Linden Gdns W2
Linhope St NW1
Linton St N1
Lisburne Rd NW3
Lisgar Terr W14
Lisle St WC2
Lissenden Gdns NW5
Lisson Gro NW1
Lisson Gro NW8
Lisson St NW1
Little Boltons, The SW10
Little Britain EC1
Little Chester St SW1
Little College St SW1
Little Dorrit Ct SE1
Little Portland St W1
Liverpool Rd N1
Liverpool St EC2
Lizard St EC1
Lloyd Baker St WC1
Lloyd St WC1
Lloyd's of London EC3
Lloyd's Ave EC3
Lloyd's Row EC1
Lodge Rd NW8
Logan Ms W8
Logan Pl W8
Lollard St SE11
Loman St SE1
Lombard St EC3
London Aquarium SE1
London Bridge SE1
London Bridge City
Pier SE1
London Bridge St EC1
London Central
Mosque NW1
London Coliseum WC2
London Dungeon SE1
London Eye SE1
London Rd SE1

6 E5
15 C5
23 A5
9 C2
5 C3
12 D2
13 B2
13 B3
13 A2
5 B4
17 B1
10 E2
10 E2
10 D2
10 D2
10 E1
19 B1
19 C1
7 C4
23 B5
17 B5
7 A3
23 B5
23 A4
18 D1
13 A2
16 D1
14 F5
4 F2
3 B4
17 A5
15 C2
18 F4
14 D1
14 D1
9 C3
3 B4
7 A1
2 E5
17 B2
13 A2
2 F5
3 B5
3 A4
3 A5
18 E3
15 A1
12 E5
21 B1
15 A4
12 F1
6 E1
15 C1
7 A3
6 D3
6 D3
15 C2
16 D2
6 E3
3 A3
17 C2
17 C2
22 D2
14 F4
15 B2
14 C4
15 B3

London St W2
London Transport
Museum WC2
London Wall EC2
London Zoo NW1
London, Museum
of EC2
Long Acre WC1
Long La EC1
Long La SE1
Long Pond Rd SE3
Long St E2
Longford St NW1
Longridge Rd SW5
Longville Rd SE11
Lonsdale Rd W11
Lord Hill Bridge W2
Lord's Cricket
Ground NW8
Lorrimer Rd SE17
Lorrimer Sq SE17
Lot's Rd SW10
Lothbury EC2
Loughborough St SE11
Lovat La EC3
Love La EC2
Lower Addison Gdns W14
Lower Belgrave St SW1
Lower Grosvenor Pl SW1
Lower Marsh SE1
Lower Sloane St SW1
Lower Terr NW3
Lower Thames St EC3
Lowndes Pl SW1
Lowndes Sq SW1
Lowndes St SW1
Lucan Pl SW3
Ludgate Circus EC4
Ludgate Hill EC4
Luke St EC2
Lupus St SW1
Luscombe Way SW8
Luton Pl SE10
Luton St NW8
Luxborough St W1
Lyall St SW1
Lyndale Clo SE3

10 F1
11 A1
13 C2
15 A1
4 D2
15 A1
13 B2
6 F5
7 A5
15 B5
24 D4
8 D3
4 E4
17 C2
22 F2
9 B2
10 D1
3 A3
22 F4
22 F4
18 E5
15 B1
22 D3
15 C2
15 A1
9 A5
20 E1
20 E1
14 D5
20 D3
1 A4
15 C3
16 D3
20 D1
11 C5
20 D1
19 B2
14 F1
14 F1
7 C4
20 F3
21 A3
21 B5
23 B3
3 A4
4 D5
20 D1
24 E2

Mandela St SW9
Mandeville Clo SE3
Mandeville Pl W1
Manette St W1
Manor Pl SE17
Manresa Rd SW3
Mansell St E1
Mansfield Rd NW3
Mansford St E2
Mansion House EC4
Manson Pl SW7
Maple St E2
Maple St W1
Marble Arch W1
Marchbank Rd W14
Marchmont St WC1
Margaret St W1
Margaretta Terr SW3
Margery St WC1
Margold St SE16
Marine St SE16
Mark St EC2
Market Entrance SW8
Market Ms W1
Markham Sq SW3
Markham St SW3
Marlborough Bldgs SW3
Marlborough House SW1
Marlborough Rd SW1
Marlborough St SW3
Marloes Rd W8
Marshall St W1
Marshall Rd SE1
Marshall St SW1
Mary Pl W11
Mary St N1
Marylebone High St W1
Marylebone La W1
Marylebone Rd NW1
Marylebone St W1
Marylee Way SE11
Maryon Ms NW3
Mason's Pl EC1
Matheson Rd W14
Matilda St N1
Maunsell St SW1
Mawbey St SW8
Maxwell Rd SW6
Maygood St N1
Maze Hill SE10
Meadow Rd SW8

22 E5
24 F3
12 D1
13 B1
22 F3
19 A3
16 E2
2 E5
8 F2
15 B2
18 F2
8 F4
4 F5
11 C2
17 B4
5 B4
12 F1
19 B4
6 D3
16 F5
16 E5
7 C4
21 A5
12 E4
19 B3
19 B3
19 B2
13 A4
13 A4
19 B2
18 D1
12 F2
15 A4
21 B1
9 A3
7 A1
4 D5
12 E1
3 B5
4 D5
4 D5
22 D2
1 C5
7 A3
17 B2
6 D1
21 A1
21 B5
18 D5
6 D2
24 D2
21 C5
22 D4

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Laburnum St E2
Lackington St EC2
Ladbroke Cres W11
Ladbroke Gdns W11
Ladbroke Gro W11
Ladbroke Rd W11
Ladbroke Sq W1
Ladbroke Terr W11
Ladbroke Wlk W11
Lafone St SE1
Lamb St E1
Lamb Wlk SE1
Lamb's Conduit St WC1
Lamb's Pas EC1
Lambeth Bridge SE1
Lambeth High St SE1
Lambeth Palace Rd SE1

8 D1
7 B5
9 A1
9 B2
9 A1
9 B3
19 B3
9 B3
9 B3
16 D4
8 D5
15 C5
5 C4
7 B5
21 C1
21 C2
14 D5
21 C1
21 C1
22 D1
22 D1
2 F5
22 F1
18 F1
17 C5
10 F2
12 F4
10 F2
13 C2
9 A1
14 F5
10 F2
10 F3
11 B5
2 F3
23 A3
12 E1
12 E1
12 F1
21 C4
13 B2
22 F5
18 F4
24 F4
9 A3
9 A2
9 A3
5 C4
9 B3
15 A5
23 C1
24 D1

Lambeth Palace SE1
Lambeth Rd SE1
Lambeth Wlk SE11
Lamble St NW5
Lamblash St SE11
Lamont Rd SW10
Lancaster Ct SW6
Lancaster Gate W2
Lancaster House SW1
Lancaster Ms W2
Lancaster Pl WC2
Lancaster Rd W11
Lancaster St SE1
Lancaster Terr W2
Lancaster Wlk W2
Lancelot Pl SW7
Langbourne Ave N6
Langdale Rd SE10
Langham Hotel W1
Langham Pl W1
Langham St W1
Langley La SW8
Langley St WC2
Langton Rd SW9
Langton St SW10
Langton Way SE3
Lansdowne Cres W11
Lansdowne Rd W11
Lansdowne Rise W11
Lansdowne Terr WC1
Lansdowne Wlk W11
Lant St SE1
Lassell St SE10

Lambeth Palace SE1
Lambeth Rd SE1
Lambeth Wlk SE11
Lamble St NW5
Lamblash St SE11
Lamont Rd SW10
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Lancaster Gate W2
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Lansdowne Terr WC1
Lansdowne Wlk W11
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Lassell St SE10

Lambeth Palace SE1
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Lamont Rd SW10
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Langton St SW10
Langton Way SE3
Lansdowne Cres W11
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Lansdowne Wlk W11
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Lassell St SE10

Lambeth Palace SE1
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Lassell St SE10

Lambeth Palace SE1
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Lamont Rd SW10
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Lancaster Rd W11
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Lancaster Terr W2
Lancaster Wlk W2
Lancelot Pl SW7
Langbourne Ave N6
Langdale Rd SE10
Langham Hotel W1
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Langley St WC2
Langton Rd SW9
Langton St SW10
Langton Way SE3
Lansdowne Cres W11
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Lansdowne Terr WC1
Lansdowne Wlk W11
Lant St SE1
Lassell St SE10

Lambeth Palace SE1
Lambeth Rd SE1
Lambeth Wlk SE11
Lamble St NW5
Lamblash St SE11
Lamont Rd SW10
Lancaster Ct SW6
Lancaster Gate W2
Lancaster House SW1
Lancaster Ms W2
Lancaster Pl WC2
Lancaster Rd W11
Lancaster St SE1
Lancaster Terr W2
Lancaster Wlk W2
Lancelot Pl SW7
Langbourne Ave N6
Langdale Rd SE10
Langham Hotel W1
Langham Pl W1
Langham St W1
Langley La SW8
Langley St WC2
Langton Rd SW9
Langton St SW10
Langton Way SE3
Lansdowne Cres W11
Lansdowne Rd W11
Lansdowne Rise W11
Lansdowne Terr WC1
Lansdowne Wlk W11
Lant St SE1
Lassell St SE10

Lambeth Palace SE1
Lambeth Rd SE1
Lambeth Wlk SE11
Lamble St NW5
Lamblash St SE11
Lamont Rd SW10
Lancaster Ct SW6
Lancaster Gate W2
Lancaster House SW1
Lancaster Ms W2
Lancaster Pl WC2
Lancaster Rd W11
Lancaster St SE1
Lancaster Terr W2
Lancaster Wlk W2
Lancelot Pl SW7
Langbourne Ave N6
Langdale Rd SE10
Langham Hotel W1
Langham Pl W1
Langham St W1
Langley La SW8
Langley St WC2
Langton Rd SW9
Langton St SW10
Langton Way SE3
Lansdowne Cres W11
Lansdowne Rd W11
Lansdowne Rise W11
Lansdowne Terr WC1
Lansdowne Wlk W11
Lant St SE1
Lassell St SE10

Lambeth Palace SE1
Lambeth Rd SE1
Lambeth Wlk SE11
Lamble St NW5
Lamblash St SE11
Lamont Rd SW10
Lancaster Ct SW6
Lancaster Gate W2
Lancaster House SW1
Lancaster Ms W2
Lancaster Pl WC2
Lancaster Rd W11
Lancaster St SE1
Lancaster Terr W2
Lancaster Wlk W2
Lancelot Pl SW7
Langbourne Ave N6
Langdale Rd SE10
Langham Hotel W1
Langham Pl W1
Langham St W1
Langley La SW8
Langley St WC2
Langton Rd SW9
Langton St SW10
Langton Way SE3
Lansdowne Cres W11
Lansdowne Rd W11
Lansdowne Rise W11
Lansdowne Terr WC1
Lansdowne Wlk W11
Lant St SE1
Lassell St SE10

Launceston Pl W8
Laundry Rd W6
Laurence Poutney La EC4
Laverton Pl SW5
Lavington St SE1
Law Society WC2
Lawn La SW8
Lawrence St SW3
Laystall St EC1
Leadenhall Mkt EC3
Leadenhall St EC3
Leake St SE1
Leamington Rd Vlls W11

18 E1
17 A4
15 B2
18 D2
14 F4
14 E1
21 C4
19 A4
6 D4
15 C2
15 C2
16 D2
14 D4
9 B1

Launceston Pl W8
Laundry Rd W6
Laurence Poutney La EC4
Laverton Pl SW5
Lavington St SE1
Law Society WC2
Lawn La SW8
Lawrence St SW3
Laystall St EC1
Leadenhall Mkt EC3
Leadenhall St EC3
Leake St SE1
Leamington Rd Vlls W11

Launceston Pl W8
Laundry Rd W6
Laurence Poutney La EC4
Laverton Pl SW5
Lavington St SE1
Law Society WC2
Lawn La SW8
Lawrence St SW3
Laystall St EC1
Leadenhall Mkt EC3
Leadenhall St EC3
Leake St SE1
Leamington Rd Vlls W11

Launceston Pl W8
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Laurence Poutney La EC4
Laverton Pl SW5
Lavington St SE1
Law Society WC2
Lawn La SW8
Lawrence St SW3
Laystall St EC1
Leadenhall Mkt EC3
Leadenhall St EC3
Leake St SE1
Leamington Rd Vlls W11

Launceston Pl W8
Laundry Rd W6
Laurence Poutney La EC4
Laverton Pl SW5
Lavington St SE1
Law Society WC2
Lawn La SW8
Lawrence St SW3
Laystall St EC1
Leadenhall Mkt EC3
Leadenhall St EC3
Leake St SE1
Leamington Rd Vlls W11

18 E1
17 A4
15 B2
18 D2
14 F4
14 E1
21 C4
19 A4
6 D4
15 C2
15 C2
16 D2
14 D4
9 B1

Launceston Pl W8
Laundry Rd W6
Laurence Poutney La EC4
Laverton Pl SW5
Lavington St SE1
Law Society WC2
Lawn La SW8
Lawrence St SW3
Laystall St EC1
Leadenhall Mkt EC3
Leadenhall St EC3
Leake St SE1
Leamington Rd Vlls W11

Launceston Pl W8
Laundry Rd W6
Laurence Poutney La EC4
Laverton Pl SW5
Lavington St SE1
Law Society WC2
Lawn La SW8
Lawrence St SW3
Laystall St EC1
Leadenhall Mkt EC3
Leadenhall St EC3
Leake St SE1
Leamington Rd Vlls W11

Launceston Pl W8
Laundry Rd W6
Laurence Poutney La EC4
Laverton Pl SW5
Lavington St SE1
Law Society WC2
Lawn La SW8
Lawrence St SW3
Laystall St EC1
Leadenhall Mkt EC3
Leadenhall St EC3
Leake St SE1
Leamington Rd Vlls W11

Millman St WC1	5 C4	Mulvaney Way SE1	15 C5	Newington Butts SE11	22 F2	Old Compton St W1	13 A2
Milmans St SW10	19 A4	Mund St W14	17 B3	Newington		Old Court Pl W8	10 D5
Milner St SW3	19 C1	Munden St W14	17 A2	Causeway SE11	5 A5	Old Gloucester St WC1	5 C5
Milson Rd W14	17 A1	Munster Rd SW6	17 A5	Newman St W1	13 A1	Old Jamaica Rd SE16	16 E5
Milton St EC2	7 B5	Munster Sq NW1	4 F4	Newport St SE11	22 D2	Old Jewry EC2	15 B1
Milverton St SE11	22 E3	Muriel St N1	6 D1	Newton Rd W2	10 D1	Old Marylebone Rd NW1	3 B5
Mincing La EC3	15 C2	Murphy St SE1	14 E5	Newton St WC2	13 C1		11 B1
Minera Ms SW1	20 D2	Murray Gro N1	7 B2	Nicholas La EC4	15 B2	Old Montague St E1	8 E5
Ministry of Defence SW1	13 C4	Musard Rd W6	17 A4	Nile St N1	7 B3	Old Nichol St E2	8 D4
Minories EC3	16 D2	Museum St WC1	13 B1	Nine Elms La SW8	21 A4	Old Orchard, The NW3	2 D5
Minories Hill EC3	16 D2	Music, Museum of SW7	10 F5	Noble St EC2	15 A1	Old Palace Yd SW1	13 B5
Mint St SE1	15 A4	Mycenae Rd SE3	24 F2	Noel Rd N1	6 F2	Old Paradise St SE11	22 D2
Mintern St N1	7 C2	Myddelton Pas EC1	6 E3		7 A2	Old Pk La W1	12 E4
Mirabel Rd SW6	17 B5	Myddelton Sq EC1	6 E3	Noel St W1	13 A1	Old Pye St SW1	21 A1
Mitchell St EC1	7 A4	Myddelton St EC1	6 E4	Norfolk Cres W2	11 B1	Old Quebec St W1	11 C2
Mitre Rd SE1	14 E4	Myrdle St E1	16 F1	Norfolk Pl W2	11 A1	Old Queen St SW1	13 B5
Mitre St EC3	16 D2			Norfolk Rd NW8	3 A1	Old Royal	
Molyneux St W1	11 B1	N		Norfolk Sq W2	11 A1	Observatory SE10	23 C3
Monck St SW1	21 B1	Napier Gro N1	7 B2	Norland Sq W11	9 A4	Old St EC1	7 A4
Monkton St SE11	22 E2	Napier Pl W14	17 B1	Norman Rd SE10	23 A3	Old St Thomas'	
Monmouth Rd W2	10 D2	Napier Rd W14	17 A1	Norman St EC1	7 A4	Operating Theatre	
Monmouth St WC2	13 B2	Nash St NW1	4 E3	Normand Rd W14	17 B4	EC1	15 B4
Montpelier St SW7	11 B1	Nassington Rd NW3	2 D5	North Audley St W1	12 D2	Old Vic SE1	14 E5
Montagu Mansions W1	3 C5	National Gallery WC2	13 B3	North East Pier E1	16 F4	Old Woolwich Rd SE10	23 C1
Montagu Pl W1	11 C1	National Maritime		North End Ave NW3	1 A2		24 D1
	11 C1	Museum SE10	23 C2	North End NW3	1 A2	Olympia W14	17 A1
Montagu Sq W1	11 C1	National Portrait		North End Rd SW6	17 C3	Olympia Way W14	17 A1
Montague Pl WC1	5 B5	Gallery WC2	13 B3	North End Rd W14	17 A2	Ongar Rd SW6	17 C4
Montague St WC1	5 B5	National Theatre SE1	14 D3	North End Way NW3	1 A2	Onslow Gdns SW7	18 F2
Montclare St E2	8 D4	Natural History		North Gower St NW1	4 F3	Onslow Sq SW7	19 A2
Montford Pl SE11	22 D3	Museum SW7	18 F1	North Gro N6	2 F1	Ontario St SE1	22 F1
Montpelier Pl SW7	11 B5			North Rd N6	2 F1	Opal St SE11	22 F2
Montpelier Row SE3	24 E5	Navarre St E2	8 D4	North Row W1	11 C2	Orange St WC2	13 B3
Montpelier Sq SW7	11 B5	Nazrul St E2	8 D2	North Tenter St E1	16 E2	Orbain Rd SW6	17 A5
Montpelier Wlk SW7	11 B5	Neal St WC2	13 B1	North Terr SW3	19 A1	Orchard Dri SE3	24 D5
Montrose Ct SW7	11 A5	Neal's Yd WC2	13 B1	North West Pier E1	16 F4	Orchard Hill SE13	23 A5
Montrose Pl SW1	12 D5	Neckinger St SE1	16 E5	North Wharf Rd W2	10 F1	Orchard Rd SE3	24 D5
Monument EC3	15 C2	Nectarine Way SE13	23 A5	Northampton Rd EC1	6 E4	Orchard St W1	12 D2
Monument St EC3	15 C2	Needham Rd W11	9 C2	Northampton Sq EC1	6 F3	Orchard, The SE3	23 C5
Moorhouse Rd W2	9 C1	Nelson Gdns E2	8 F3	Northburgh St EC1	6 F4	Orchardson St NW8	3 A4
Moor La EC2	7 B5	Nelson Pl N1	6 F2	Northdown St N1	5 C2	Orde Hall St WC1	5 C5
Moore Pk Rd SW6	18 D5	Nelson Rd SE10	23 B2	Norththorpe St WC1	6 D5	Ordinance Hill NW8	3 A1
Moore St SW3	19 C2	Nelson Sq SE1	14 F4	Northumberland Ave		Orlop St SE10	24 D1
Moorfields EC2	7 B5	Nelson's Column WC2	13 B3	WC2	13 B3	Orme Ct W2	10 D3
Moorgate EC2	7 B5	Nesham St E1	16 F3	Northumberland Pl W2	9 C1	Orme La W2	10 D3
	15 B1	Netherton Gro SW10	18 F4	Norton Folgate E1	8 D5	Ormiston Rd SE10	24 F1
Mora St EC1	7 A3	Nevada St SE10	23 B3	Norway St SE10	23 A2	Ormonde Gate SW3	19 C3
Moravian Pl SW10	19 A4	Nevern Pl SW5	17 C2	Notting Hill Gate		Ormonde Terr NW8	3 C1
Morden Clo SE13	23 B5	Nevern Rd SW5	17 C2	W11	9 C3	Ormsby St E2	8 D2
Morden Hill SE13	23 B5	Nevern Sq SW5	17 C2		10 D3	Orsett St SE11	22 D3
Morden Rd SE3	24 F5	Neville St SW7	19 A3	Nottingham Pl W1	4 D5	Orsett Terr W2	10 E1
Morden Rd Ms SE3	24 F5	New Bond St W1	12 E2	Nottingham St W1	4 D5	Orsman Rd N1	7 C1
Morden St SE13	23 A4	New Bridge St EC4	14 F2	Nutall Pl W1	11 B1		8 D1
Moreland St EC1	6 F3	New British Library NW1	5 B3	Nuttall St N1	7 C1	Osborn St E1	16 E1
	7 A3	New Broad St EC2	15 C1		8 D1	Osnaburgh St NW1	4 E4
Moreton Pl SW1	21 A3	New Cavendish St W1	4 E5	O		Ossington St W2	10 D3
Moreton St SW1	21 A3	New Change EC4	15 A2	Oak Hill Pk NW3	1 A5	Ossulton St NW1	5 A2
Morgan's La SE1	15 C4	New Compton St WC2	13 B1	Oak Hill Way NW3	1 A4	Oswin St SE11	22 F1
Morley St SE1	14 E5	New Covent Garden		Oak Tree Rd NW8	3 A3	Otto St SE17	22 F4
Mornington Ave W14	17 B2	Mkt SW8	21 A5	Oak Village NW5	2 F5	Outer Circle NW1	3 B2
Mornington Cres NW1	4 F2	New End NW3	1 B4	Oakcroft Rd SE13	23 C5		4 D2
Mornington St NW1	4 F2	New End Sq NW3	1 B4	Oakden St SE11	22 E2	Oval Pl SW8	22 D5
Mornington Terr NW1	4 E1	New Fetter La EC4	14 E1	Oakeshort Ave N6	2 F2	Oval Rd NW1	4 E1
Morocco St SE1	15 C5	New Inn Yd EC2	8 D4	Oakley Gdns SW3	19 B4	Oval, The SE11	22 D4
Morpeth Terr SW1	20 F1	New North Rd N1	7 B1	Oakley Sq NW1	5 A2	Oval Way SE11	22 D3
Mortimer St W1	12 F1	New North St WC1	5 C5	Oakley St SW3	19 B4	Ovington Gdns	
Morwell St WC1	13 A1	New Oxford St WC1	13 B1	Oat La EC2	15 A1	SW3	19 B1
Moscow Rd W2	10 D2	New Palace Yd SW1	13 B5	Observatory Gdns W8	9 C4	Ovington Sq SW3	19 B1
Mossop St SW3	19 B2	New Rd E1	8 F5	Offley Rd SW9	22 E5	Ovington St SW3	19 B1
Motcomb St SW1	12 D5			Old Bailey EC4	14 F1	Owen St EC1	6 E2
Mount Pleasant WC1	6 D4	New Row WC2	13 B2	Old Bethnal Grn Rd E2	8 F3	Oxford Gdns W10	9 A1
Mount Row W1	12 E3	New Scotland Yd SW1	13 A5	Old Bond St W1	12 F3	Oxford Sq W2	11 B1
Mount St W1	12 D3	New Sq WC2	14 D1	Old Brewery Ms NW3	1 B5	Oxford St W1	12 D2
Mount, The NW3	1 A4	New St EC2	16 D1	Old Broad St EC2	15 C1		13 A1
Mounts Pond Rd SE3	23 C5	New Wharf Rd N1	5 C2	Old Brompton Rd SW5	18 D3	P	
	24 D5	New Zealand House SW1	13 A3	Old Brompton Rd SW7	19 A2	Pakenham St WC1	6 D4
	22 D5	Newburn St SE11	22 D3	Old Castle St E1	16 D1	Packington Sq N1	7 A1
Moylan Rd W6	17 A4	Newcomen St SE1	15 B4	Old Cavendish St W1	12 E1	Packington St N1	6 F1
Mulberry St E1	16 F1	Newcourt St NW8	3 A2	Old Church St SW3	19 A3		7 A1
Mulberry Wlk SW3	19 A4	Newgate St EC1	14 F1			Paddington Basin W2	11 A1
Mulgrave Rd SW6	17 B4		15 A1				

Paddington Green W2
Paddington St W1
Page St SW1
Paget St EC1
Pagoda Gdns SE3
Palace Ave W8
Palace Ct W2
Palace Gate W8
Palace Gdns Ms W8
Palace Gdns Terr W8
Palace Grn W8
Palace St SW1
Palace Theatre WC2
Palfrey Pl SW8
Pall Mall SW1
Pall Mall East SW1
Palliser Rd W14
Palmer St SW1
Pancras Rd NW1
Panton St SW1
Parade, The SW11
Paradise Wlk SW3
Paragon Pl SE3
Paragon, The SE3
Pardoners St SE1
Paris Garden SE1
Park Cres W1
Park La W1

Park Pl SW1
Park Rd NW1, NW8
Park Row SE10
Park Sq East NW1
Park Sq Gdns NW1
Park Sq West NW1
Park St SE1
Park St W1
Park Village East NW1
Park Vista SE10

Park West Pl W2
Park Wlk SW10
Parker St WC2
Parkfield St N1
Parkgate Rd SW11
Parkville Rd SW6
Parkway NW1
Parliament Hill N6

Parliament Sq SW1
Parliament St SW1
Parr St N1
Parry St SW8
Pascal St SW8
Pater St W8
Paul St EC2
Paultons Sq SW3
Paultons St SW3
Paveley Dri SW11
Paveley St NW8
Pavilion Rd SW1

Peabody Ave SW1
Peace Pagoda SW11
Peachum Rd SE3
Pear Tree St EC1
Pearman St SE1
Pearson St E2
Pedley St E1
Peel St W8
Peerless St EC1
Pelham Cres SW7
Pelham Pl SW7
Pelham St SW7
Pellant Rd SW6
Pelter St E2
Pelton Rd SE10
Pembroke Cres W1
Pembroke Gdns W2
Pembroke Pl W2
Pembroke Rd W1
Pembroke Sq W2

3 A5
4 D5
21 B2
6 F3
23 C5
10 D4
10 D3
10 E5
10 D3
10 D3
10 D4
12 F5
13 B2
22 D5
13 A3
13 B3
17 A3
13 A5
5 B2
13 A3
19 C5
19 C4
24 E5
24 F5
15 B5
14 E3
4 E5
11 C2
12 D3
12 F4
3 B3
23 C1
4 E4
4 E4
4 E4
15 A3
12 D2
4 E2
23 C2
24 D2
11 B1
18 F4
13 C1
6 E2
19 B5
4 E1
2 D4
2 E4
13 B5
7 B2
21 C4
21 B5
17 C1
7 C4
19 A4
19 A4
19 A5
3 B4
11 C5
19 C1
20 E3
19 C5
24 F2
7 A4
14 E5
8 D2
8 E4
9 C4
19 A2
19 A2
17 A5
8 D3
24 D1
9 C2
9 C3
9 C2
9 C2
9 C3

Pembroke Vlls W11
Pembroke Gdns W8
Pembroke Gdns Clo W8
Pembroke Rd W8
Pembroke Sq W8
Pembroke Vlls W8
Penfold St NW1, NW8
Penn St N1
Pennant Ms W8
Pennington St E1
Penryn St NW1
Penry Pl SE17
Penton Rise WC1
Penton St N1
Pentonville Rd N1
Penywyn Rd SW5
Penzance Pl W11
Penzance St W11
Pepper St SE1
Pepys St EC3
Percival St EC1
Percy Circus WC1
Percy St W1
Perham Rd W14
Perrin's La NW3
Perrin's Wlk NW3
Peter Jones SW3
Peter Pan Statue W2
Petersham La SW7
Petersham Pl SW7
Peto Pl NW1
Petticoat La E1
Petticoat Sq E1
Petty France SW1
Petyward SW3
Phene St SW3
Philbeach Gdns SW5
Phillimore Gdns W8
Phillimore Pl W8
Phillimore Wlk W8
Phillipp St N1

Philpot La EC3
Phoenix Pl WC1
Phoenix Rd NW1
Photographer's
Gallery WC2
Piccadilly Circus W1
Piccadilly W1

Pickard St EC1
Pilgrim St EC4
Pilgrim's La NW3
Pilgrimage St EC1
Pimlico Rd SW1
Pinchin St E1
Pindar St EC2
Pitfield St N1
Pitt St W8
Pitt's Head Ms W1
Platt St NW1
Playing Fields SE11
Plender St NW1

Plough Yd EC2
Plumber's Row E1
Pocock St SE1
Point Hill SE10
Pointers Clo E14
Poland St W1
Pollard Row E2
Pollock's Toy Museum W1
Polygon Rd NW1
Pond Pl SW3
Pond Rd SE3
Pond St NW3
Ponler St E1
Ponsonby Pl SW1
Ponsonby Terr SW1
Pont St SW1

Ponton Rd SW8

9 C2
17 C1
17 C1
17 C1
17 C1
17 C1
3 A4
7 B1
18 D1
16 F3
5 A2
22 F2
6 D3
6 D2
6 D2
18 D3
9 A3
9 A3
15 A4
16 D2
6 F4
6 D3
13 A1
17 A3
1 B5
1 A5
19 C2
10 F3
18 E1
18 E1
4 E4
16 D1
16 D1
13 A5
19 B2
19 B4
17 C2
9 C5
9 C5
9 C5
7 C1
8 D1
15 C2
6 D4
5 A3

13 B2
13 A3
12 E4
13 A3
7 A3
14 F2
1 C5
15 B5
20 D2
16 F2
7 C5
7 C2
10 D4
12 E4
5 A2
22 F2
4 F1
5 A1
8 D4
16 F1
14 F4
23 B4
23 A1
12 F1
8 F3
5 A5
5 A2
24 F5
1 C5
16 F2
21 B3
21 B3
19 C1
20 D1
21 A4

Poole St N1
Pope Rd SE1
Popham Rd N1
Popham St N1
Porchester Gdns W2
Porchester Pl W2
Porchester Rd W2
Porchester Sq W2
Porchester Terr W2
Porlock St SE1
Portland Pl W1
Portland Rd W11
Portman Clo W1
Portman Ms South W11
Portman Sq W1
Portobello Rd W10
Portobello Rd W11
Portpool La EC1
Portsmouth St WC2
Portsoken St E1
Portugal St WC2
Pottery La W11
Poultry EC2
Powis Gdns W11
Powis Sq W11
Powis Terr W11
Pownall Rd E8
Praed St W2

Pratt St NW1
Pratt Wlk SE11
Prebend St N1
Prescot St E1
Price's Yd N1
Prideaux Pl WC1
Prima Rd SW9
Primrose Hill NW3, NW8
Primrose St EC2
Prince Albert Rd
NW1, NW8
Prince Arthur Rd NW3
Prince Charles Rd SE3
Prince Consort Rd SW7
Prince of Wales Rd SE3
Prince's Gate SW7
Prince's Gate Ms SW7
Prince's Gdns SW7
Prince's Rise SE13
Prince's Sq W2
Prince's St EC2
Princedale Rd W11
Princelet St E1
Princes Pl W11
Princes St W1
Princess Rd NW1
Princeton St WC1
Printer Sq EC4
Prior St SE10
Priory Wlk SW10
Pritchard's Rd E2
Protheroe Rd SW6
Provence St N1
Provost St N1
Public Gardens W1
Puddle Dock EC4
Purbrook St SE1
Purcell St N1
Purchase St NW1

7 B1
16 D5
7 A1
7 A1
10 D2
11 B1
10 D1
10 E2
15 B5
4 E5
9 A3
11 C1
2 D2
12 D1
9 A1
9 B2
6 D5
14 D1
16 D2
14 D1
9 A3
15 B2
9 B1
9 B1
8 E1
10 F1
11 A1
4 F1
22 D1
7 A1
16 E2
6 D1
6 D3
22 E5
3 B1
7 C5
3 B2
4 D1
1 B5
24 E4
10 F5
24 F4
11 A5
19 A1
11 A5
23 B5
10 D2
15 B1
9 A3
8 E5
9 A3
12 F2
4 D1
6 D5
14 E1
23 B3
18 F3
8 F1
17 A5
7 A2
7 B3
4 D5
14 F2
16 D5
7 C2
5 A2

Queen Victoria St EC4
Queen's Chapel SW1
Queen's Club Gdns W14
Queen's Gallery SW1
Queen's Gdns SW1
Queen's Gdns W2
Queen's Gate SW7

Queen's Gate Gdns SW7
Queen's Gate Ms SW7
Queen's Gate Pl Ms SW7
Queen's Gate Terr SW7
Queen's Gro NW8
Queen's House SE10
Queen's Wlk SW1
Queen's Wlk SE1

Queenhithe EC4
Queensberry Pl SW7
Queensborough Ms W2
Queensborough Terr W2
Queensbridge Rd E2, E8
Queensdale Rd W11
Queensdown Rd SW8
Queensway W2
Quilter St E2

R
Racton Rd SW6
Radnor Ms W2
Radnor Pl W2
Radnor St EC1
Radnor Terr W14
Radnor Wlk SW3
Radstock St SW1
Railway Approach SE1
Railway St N1
Raleigh St N1
Rampayne St SW1
Randall Pl SE10
Randall Rd SE11
Ranelagh Gardens SW3
Ranelagh Gro SW1
Ranger's House SE10
Raphael St SW7
Rathbone Pl W1
Rathbone St W1
Ravensbourne Pl SE13
Ravenscroft St E2
Ravensdon St SE11
Ravent Rd SE11
Rawlings St SW3
Rawstone St EC
Ray St EC1
Raymond Bldgs WC1
Rector St N1
Red Lion Sq WC1
Red Lion St WC1
Redan Pl W2
Redburn St SW3
Redchurch St E2
Redcliffe Gdns SW10
Redcliffe Ms SW10
Redcliffe Pl SW10
Redcliffe Rd SW10
Redcliffe Sq SW10
Redcross Way SE1
Redesdale St SW3
Redfield La SW5
Redhill St NW1
Redington Rd NW3
Redvers St N1
Redworth St SE11
Rees St N1
Reeves Ms W1
Regan Way N1
Regency St SW1
Regent Sq WC1

14 F2
15 A2
13 A4
17 A4
12 F5
12 F5
10 E2
10 F5
18 F1
18 F1
10 F5
18 F1
18 F1
18 E1
3 A1
23 C2
12 F4
14 E3
16 A4
15 E2
18 F1
10 E2
10 E2
8 E1
9 A4
20 E4
10 D2
8 E3

17 C4
11 A2
11 A1
7 A3
17 B1
19 B3
19 B5
15 B3
5 C2
6 F1
21 A3
23 A3
21 C2
20 D3
20 D3
23 C4
11 B5
13 A1
13 A1
23 A5
8 E2
22 E3
22 D2
19 B2
16 F3
6 E4
6 D5
7 A1
5 C5
6 D5
10 D2
19 B4
8 D4
18 E3
18 E3
18 E4
18 F4
18 D3
15 A4
19 B3
18 D2
4 E3
1 A5
8 D2
22 E2
7 B1
12 D3
7 C2
21 A2
5 C3

Q

Quaker St E1
Queen Anne St W1
Queen Anne's
Gate SW1
Queen Elizabeth St SE1
Queen Mary's
Gardens NW1
Queen Sq WC1
Queen St EC4
Queen St Pl EC4

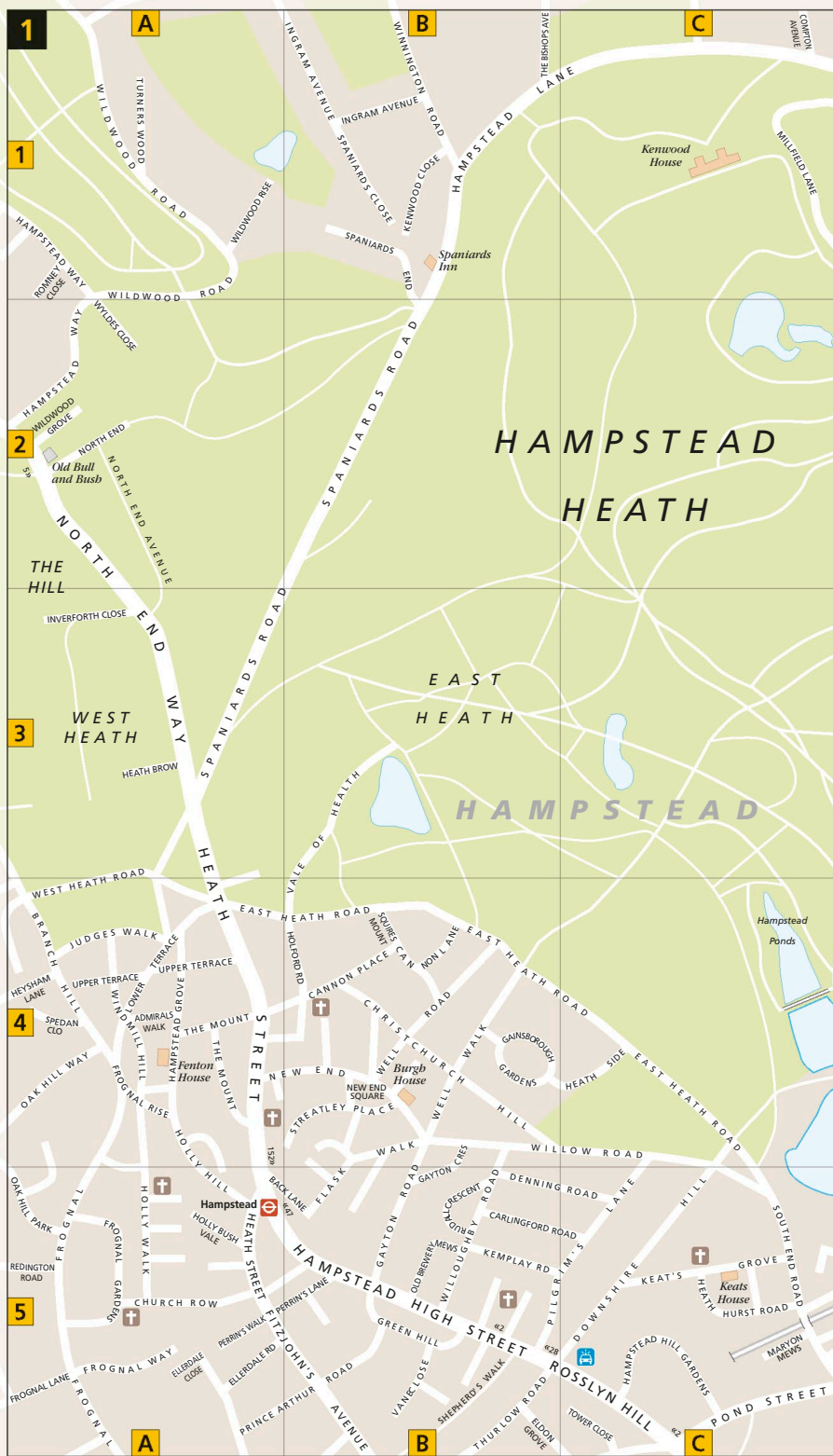
8 D4
12 E1
13 A5
16 D4
4 D3
5 C5
15 B2
15 A2

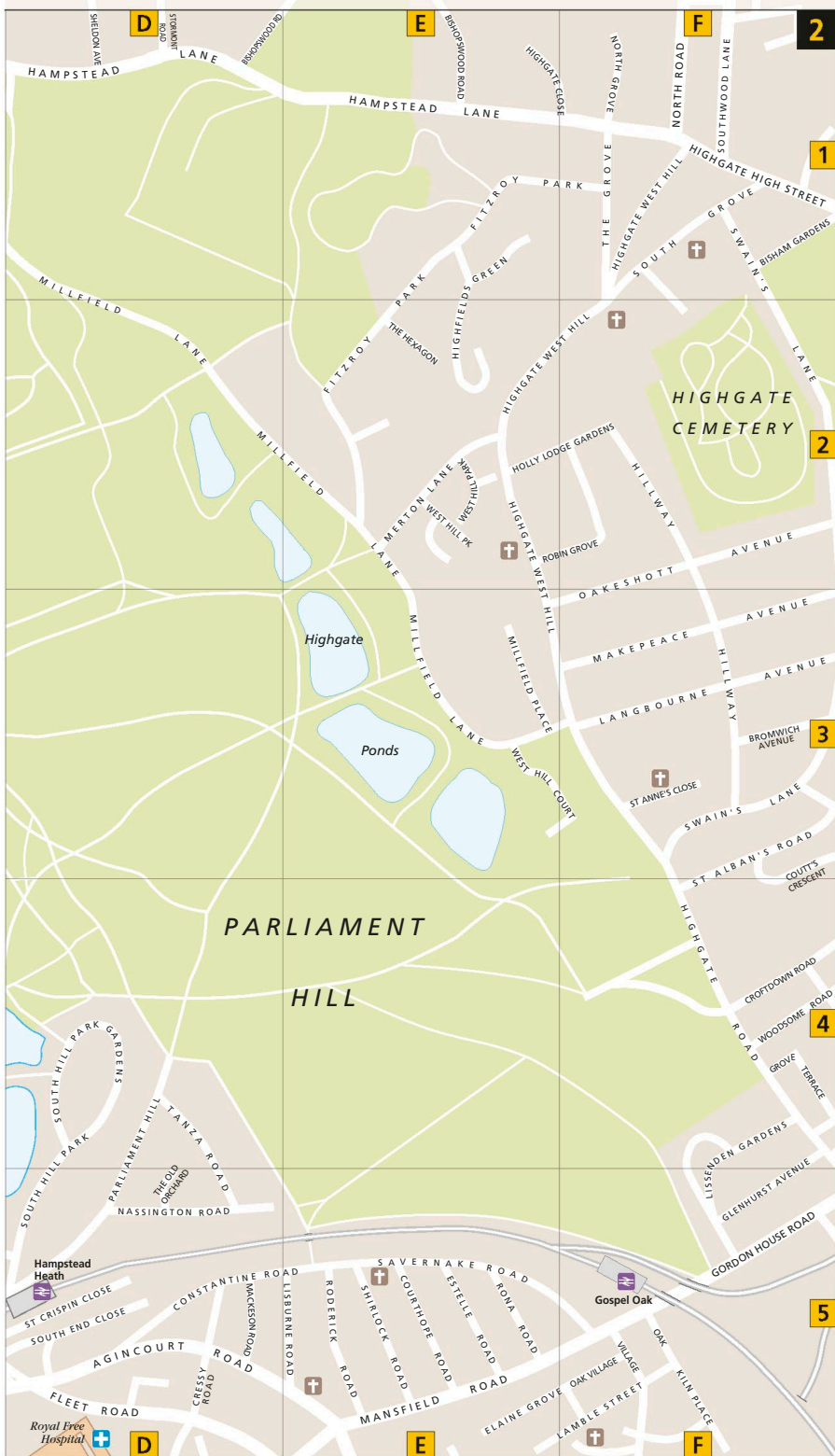
Regent St W1, SW1	12 F1	Royal Hospital		St James's Church SW1	13 A3	Saffron Hill EC1	6 E5
Regent's Park NW1	13 A3	Cemetery SE10	24 F1	St James's Palace SW1	12 F4	Sail St SE11	22 D1
	4 D2	Royal Hospital Chelsea		St James's Park SW1	13 A4	Salamanca St SE1, SE11	21 C2
Regent's Pk Terr NW1	4 E1	SW3	20 D3	St James's Pk Lake SW1	13 A4	Sale Pl W2	11 A1
Regent's Pl SE3	24 F5	Royal Hospital Rd SW3	19 C3	St James's Pl SW1	12 F4	Salem Rd W2	10 D2
Regent's Pk Rd NW1	3 C1		20 D3	St James's Rd SE16	16 F5	Salisbury Ct EC4	14 E2
	4 D1	Royal Mint St E1	16 E2	St James's Sq SW1	13 A3	Salisbury St NW8	3 A4
Regent's Row E8	2 E1	Royal Ms SW1	12 E5	St James's St SW1	12 F3	Sampson St E1	16 F4
Rennfrew Rd SE11	8 F2	Royal Naval College		St John St EC1	6 E2	Sanctuary St SE11	22 D2
Rennie St SE1	14 F3	(Old) SE10	23 C2	St John's SE1	14 E4	Sandwich St WC1	5 B3
Restell Clo SE3	24 E2	Royal Opera House WC2	13 C2	St John's Gdns SW1	21 B1	Sans Walk Row E1	8 D5
Rheidol Terr N1	7 A1	Royal Parade SE3	24 E5	St John's Gdns W11	9 A3	Sans Wlk EC1	6 E4
Richard's Pl SW3	19 B5	Royal Rd SE17	22 F4	St John's High St NW8	3 A2	Saunders Ness Rd E14	23 B1
Richborne Terr SW8	22 D2	Royal St SE1	14 D5	St John's La EC1	6 F5	Savernake Rd NW3	2 E5
Richmond Terr SW1	13 B4	Ruddall Cres NW3	1 B5	St John's Pk SE3	24 F3	Savile Row W1	12 F2
Rick La SW5	18 D3	Rumbold Rd SW6	18 E5	St John's Smith Sq SW1	21 B1	Savona St SW8	20 F5
Rickett St SW6	17 C4	Rupert St W1	13 A2	St John's Sq EC1	6 F4	Savoy Chapel WC2	13 C2
Ridgmount Gdns WC1	5 A5	Rushton St N1	7 B2	St John's Wood		Savoy Hill WC2	13 C3
Ridgmount St WC1	5 A5	Rushworth St SE1	14 F4	Church Gdns NW8	3 A3	Savoy Pl WC2	13 C3
Riding House St W1	12 F1	Russell Gdns W14	9 A5	St John's Wood		Savoy Row WC2	13 C3
Riley Rd SE1	16 D5	Russell Gdns Ms W14	9 A5	High St NW8	3 A2	Savoy St WC2	13 C2
Ring, The W2	11 A3	Russell Rd W14	17 A1	St John's Wood		Savoy, The WC2	13 C2
Risinghill St N1	6 D2	Russell Sq WC1	5 B5	Rd NW8	3 A3	Scala St W1	5 A5
Rita Rd SW8	21 C5	Russell St WC2	13 C2	St John's Wood Terr NW8	3 A2	Scarborough St E1	16 E2
Ritz Hotel SW1	12 F3	Russett Way SE13	23 A5	St Katharine Docks E1	16 E3	Scarsdale Vlls W8	17 C1
River St EC1	6 E3	Ruston Ms W11	9 A1	St Katharine's Pier E1	16 E3		18 D1
Rivington St EC2	7 C3	Rutherford St SW1	21 A2	St Katharine's Way E1	16 E3	Science Museum SW7	18 F1
Roan St SE10	23 A2	Ruthin Rd SE3	24 F2	St Lawrence Terr W10	9 A1		19 A1
Robert St NW1	4 F3	Rutland Gdns SW7	11 B5	St Leonard's Terr SW3	19 C3	Sclater St E1	8 E4
Robert Adam St W1	12 D1	Rutland Gate SW7	11 B5	St Loo Ave SW3	19 B4	Scott Lidgett Cres SE16	16 F5
Roberta St E2	8 F3	Ryculf Sq SE3	24 F5	St Luke's Ms W11	9 B1	Scott St E1	8 F4
Robin Gro N6	2 F2	Ryder St SW1	12 F4	St Luke's Rd W11	9 B1	Scovell Crescent SE1	15 A5
Rochester Row SW1	21 A2	Rylston Rd SW6	17 B4	St Luke's St SW3	19 B3	Scrutton St EC2	7 C4
Roderick Rd NW3	2 E5			St Magnus the Martyr EC3	15 C3	Seagrave Rd SW6	17 C4
Rodmarton St W1	11 C1	S		St Margaret Pattens EC3	15 C2		18 D4
Rodmere St SE10	24 E1	Saatchi Gallery SW3	19 C2	St Margaret's Church SW1	13 B5	Sebastian St EC1	6 F3
Rodney St N1	6 D2	Shard, The	15 C4	St Margaret St SW1	13 B5	Sedlescombe Rd SW6	17 C4
Roger St WC1	6 D4	St Agnes Pl SE11	22 E4	St Mark St E1	16 E2	Seething La EC3	16 D2
Roland Gdns SW7	18 F3	St Alban's Rd NW5	2 F3	St Mark's Cres NW1	4 D1	Selby St E1	8 F4
Roland Way SW7	18 F3	St Alban's St SW1	13 A3	St Mark's Rd W11	9 A2	Selbridge's W1	12 D2
Romilly St W1	13 A2	St Alfège Passage SE10	23 B2	St Martin's La WC2	13 B2	Selwood Pl SW7	18 F3
Romney Clo NW11	1 A1	St Andrew's EC4	14 E1	St Martin's Le Grand EC1	15 A1	Selwood Terr SW7	18 F3
Romney Rd SE10	23 B2	St Andrew's Gdns WC1	6 D4	St Martin's Pl WC3	13 B3	Semley Pl SW1	20 E2
Romney St SW1	21 B1	St Andrew's Pl NW1	4 E4	St Martin's St WC2	13 B3	Serie St WC2	14 D1
Rona Rd NW3	2 E5	St Andrews St EC4	14 E1	St Martin-in-the-Fields WC2	13 B3	Serpentine Gallery W2	11 A4
Rood La EC3	15 C2	St Anne's Clo N6	2 F3			Serpentine Rd W2	11 C4
Ropemaker St EC2	7 B5	St Ann's St SW1	21 B1	St Mary Abbots Terr W14	17 B1		12 D4
Roper's Garden SW3	19 A4	St Ann's Terr NW8	3 A2	St Mary Aldermary EC4	15 A2	Serpentine, The W2	11 B4
Rosaline Rd SW6	17 A5	St Austell Rd SE13	23 B5	St Mary at Hill EC3	15 C2	Settles St E1	16 F1
Rosary Gdns SW7	18 E2	St Barnabas St SW1	20 D2	St Mary Axe EC3	15 C1	Seven Dials WC2	13 B2
Rosaville Rd SW6	17 B5	St Bartholomew's		St Mary's Hospital W2	11 A1	Seville St SW1	11 C5
Rose Alley SE1	15 A3	Hospital EC1	14 F1	St Mary-le-Strand WC2	14 D2	Seward St EC1	7 A4
Rose St WC2	13 B2	St Bartholomew's-the-Great EC1	6 F5	St Mary's Path N1	6 F1	Seymour Ms W1	12 D1
Rose Playhouse SE1	15 A3	St Botolph Church EC1	15 A1	St Mary's Wlk SE11	22 E2	Seymour Pl W1	3 B5
Rosebery Ave EC1	6 E4	St Botolph St EC3	16 D1	St Mary-le-Bow EC4	15 A2		11 B1
Rosemoor St SW3	19 B2	St Bride St EC4	14 E1	St Marylebone Parish Church W1	4 D5	Seymour St W1, W2	11 C2
Rosewood Gdns SE13	23 A5	St Bride's EC4	14 F2	St Matthew's Row E2	8 E4	Seymour Wlk SW10	18 E4
Rosmead Rd W11	9 A2	St Chad's Pl WC1	5 C3	St Michael's St W2	11 A1	Shad Thames SE1	16 E4
Rosslyn Hill NW3	1 C5	St Chad's St WC1	5 C3	St Olaf's Rd SW6	17 A5	Shaftesbury Ave W1	13 A2
Rossmore Rd NW1	3 B4	St Clement Danes WC2	14 D2	St Oswald's Pl SE11	22 A3	Shaftesbury Ave WC2	13 B1
Rotary St SE1	14 F5	St Crispin Clo NW3	2 D5	St Pancras Church WC1	5 B3	Shaftesbury St N1	7 B2
Rotten Row SW7	11 A4	St Cross St EC1	6 E5	St Pancras Old Church and Graveyard NW1	5 A2	Shaftho Ms SW1	19 C1
Roupell St SE1	14 E4	St Edmund's Terr NW8	3 B1	St Paul's Way NW1	5 A1	Shafts Ct EC3	15 C1
Rouallan Rd SW6	17 A5	St Etheldreda's EC1	6 E5	St Paul St N1	7 A1	Shakespeare's Globe SE1	15 A3
Royal Academy of Arts W1	12 F3	St George's Bloomsbury WC1	13 B1	St Paul's Cathedral EC4	15 A2	Shalcomb St SW10	18 F4
Royal Academy of Music NW1	4 D4	St George's Cathedral SE1	14 E5	St Paul's Church WC2	13 C2	Shelfield St SW3	19 B3
Royal Albert Hall SW7	10 F5	St George's Circus SE1	14 F5	St Paul's Churchyard EC4	15 A1	Sheffield Ter W8	9 C4
Royal Ave SW3	19 C3	St George's Dri SW1	20 F2	St Peter's Clo E2	8 F2	Sheldon Ave N6	2 D1
Royal College of Art SW7	10 F5	St George's Fields W2	11 B2	St Peter's St N1	6 F1	Sheldrake Pl W8	9 C5
Royal College of Music SW7	10 F5	St George's Gdn W1	12 D3	St Peter's St Albert	7 A2	Shelton St WC2	13 B2
Royal College St NW1	5 A1	St George's Gdns WC1	5 C4	St Petersburgh Pl W2	10 D3	Shenfield St N1	8 D2
Royal Courts of Justice WC2	14 D2	St George's Rd SE1	22 F1	St Stephen		Sherpherd Mkt W1	12 E4
Royal Exchange EC4	15 C2	St George's Sq SW1	21 A3	Walbrook EC4	15 B2	Shepherd St W1	12 E4
Royal Festival Hall SE1	14 D5	St German's Pl SE3	24 F4	St Stephen's Gdns W2	9 C1	Shepherdess Wlk N1	7 A2
Royal Free Hospital NW3	2 D4	St Giles EC2	7 A5	St Stephen's Terr SW8	21 C5	Shepherd's Wlk NW3	1 B5
Royal Hill SE10	23 B3	St Giles, Cripplegate		St Swithin's La EC4	15 B2	Shepperton Rd N1	7 B1
		High St WC2	13 B1	St Thomas St SE1	15 B4	Sherbourne La EC4	15 B2
		St Helen's Bishopsgate EC3	15 C1	St Thomas's Hospital SE1	13 C5	Sherbrooke Rd SW6	18 D5
				St Thomas's Way SW6	17 B5	Sherlock Holmes Museum W1	3 C4
				Sackville St W1	12 F3	Sherwood St W1	13 A2

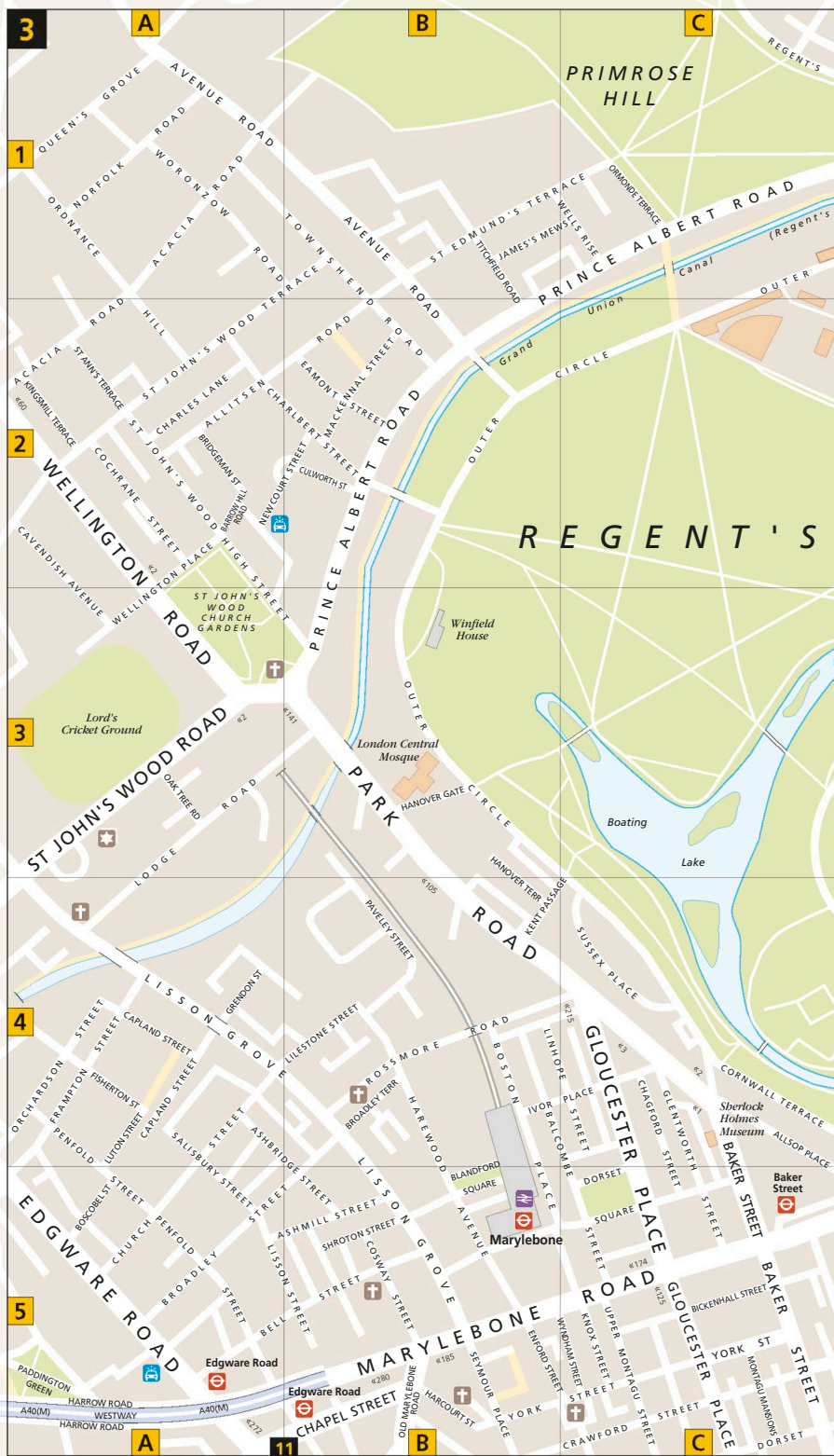
Each place name is followed by its postal district number and then by its Street Finder reference

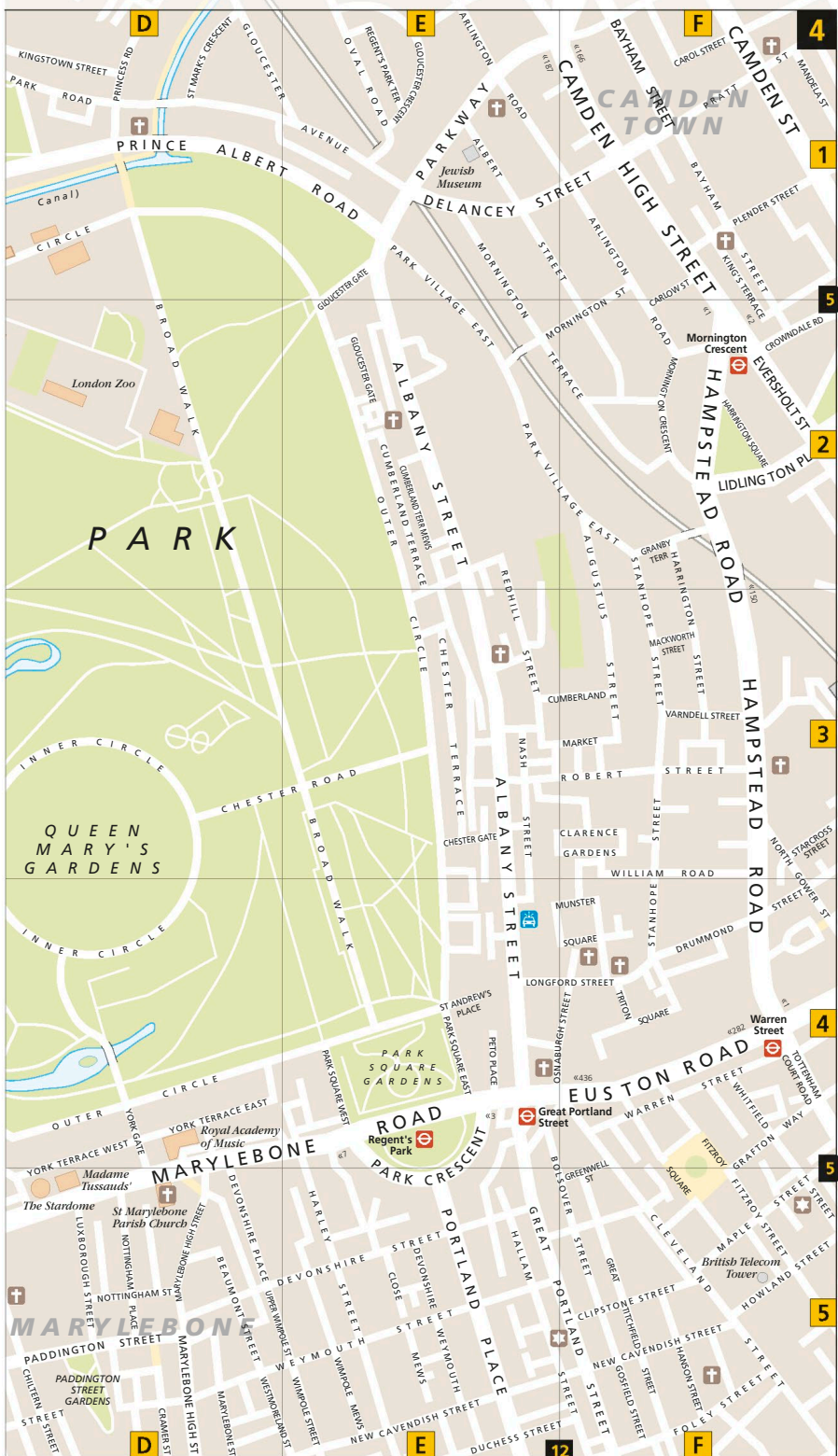
Shipton St E2	8 E2	Spitalfields Market	8 D5	Swan Wlk SW3	19 C4	Titchborne Row W2	11 B2
Shirlock Rd NW3	2 E5	Spring St W2	10 F2	Swanfield St E2	8 E3	Titchfield Rd NW8	3 B1
Shoe La EC4	14 E1	Spur Rd SW1	12 F5	Swinton St WC1	5 C3	Tite St SW3	19 C4
Shooters Hill Rd SE3	24 D4	Squires Mount NW3	1 B4	Sydney Pl SW3	19 A2	Tolpuddle St N1	6 E2
Shooters Hill Rd SE18	23 C4	Squirries St E2	8 F3	Sydney St SW3	19 A3	Tom Smith Clo SE3	24 D2
Shoreditch High St EC2	8 D3	Stable Yd Rd SW1	12 F4	Symons St SW3	19 C2	Tomlinson Clo E2	8 E3
Shoreditch Park E2	7 B1	Stafford Terr W8	9 C5			Tompson St EC1	6 F3
Shorrold's Rd SW6	17 C5	Stag Pl SW1	20 F1	T		Tonbridge St WC1	5 B3
Short St SE1	14 E4	Stamford St SE1	14 E3	Tabard St SE1	15 B5	Tooley St EC1	15 B3
Shouldham St W1	11 B1	Stanford Rd W8	18 E1	Tabernacle St EC2	7 C4	Tooley St SE1	16 D4
Shroton St NW1	3 B5	Stanhope Gdns SW7	18 F2	Tachbrook St SW1	21 A2	Tor Gdns W8	9 C4
Shroton St WC1	5 C3	Stanhope Gate W1	12 D4	Tadema Rd SW10	18 F5	Torrington Pl WC1	5 A5
Silk St EC2	7 B5	Stanhope Ms East SW7	18 F2	Talbot Pl SE3	24 D5	Torrington Sq WC1	5 A4
Sinclair Rd W14	17 A1	Stanhope Ms West SW7	18 F2	Talbot Rd W2, W11	9 C1	Tothill St SW1	13 B5
Singer St EC2	7 C4	Stanhope Pl W2	11 B2	Talbot Sq W2	11 A2	Tottenham Ct Rd W1	4 F4
Sir John Soane's		Stanhope St NW1	4 F3	Talgarth Rd W6, W14	17 A3		5 A5
Museum WC2	14 D1	Stanhope Terr W2	11 A2	Tallis St EC4	14 E2		13 A1
Skinner St EC1	6 E4	Stanley Cres W11	9 B2	Tanner St SE1	16 D5	Tottenham St W1	5 A5
Sky Garden, The EC3	15 C2	Stanley Gdns W11	9 B2	Tamworth St SW6	17 C4	Toulmin St SE1	15 A5
Slaiburn St SW10	18 F4	Stannary St E1	22 E3	Tanza Rd NW3	2 D4	Tournay Rd SW6	17 C5
Sleaford St SW8	20 F5	Stanway St N1	8 D2	Taplow St N1	7 A2	Tower Bridge E1	16 D3
Sloane Ave SW3	19 B2	Stanwick Rd W14	17 B2	Tarves Way SE10	23 A3	Tower Bridge SE1	16 D4
Sloane Ct East SW3	20 D3	Staple Inn WC1	14 E1	Tasso Rd W6	17 A4	Tower Bridge	
Sloane Gdns SW1	20 D2	Staple St SE1	15 B5	Tate Britain SW1	21 B2	Approach E1	16 E3
Sloane Sq SW1	19 C2	Stardome NW1	4 D5	Tate Modern SE1	14 F3	Tower Bridge Rd SE1	16 D4
	20 D2	Star Rd W14	17 B4		15 A3	Tower Clo NW3	1 C5
Sloane St SW1	11 C5	Star St W2	11 A1	Tavistock Cres W11	9 B1	Tower Hill EC3	16 D2
	19 C1	Starcross St NW1	4 F3	Tavistock Pl WC1	5 B4	Tower of London EC3	16 D3
Smith Sq SW1	21 B1	Stean St E8	8 D1	Tavistock Rd W11	9 B1	Townshend Rd NW8	3 B1
Smith St SW3	19 C3	Stephen St W1	13 A1	Tavistock Sq WC1	5 B4	Toynbee St E1	16 D1
Smith Terr SW3	19 C3	Stephenson Way NW1	5 A4	Tavistock St WC2	13 C2	Tradescant Rd SW8	21 C5
Smithfield Mkt EC1	6 F5	Steward St E1	8 D5	Taviston St WC1	5 A4	Trafalgar Rd SE10	24 D1
Snow Hill EC1	14 F1	Stewart's Rd SW8	20 F5	Teale St E2	8 F2	Trafalgar Sq SW1	13 B3
Snowfields SE1	15 B4	Stock Exchange		Tedworth Sq SW3	19 C3	Trafalgar Sq WC2	13 B3
Soho Sq W1	13 A1	(Old) EC4	15 C1	Teesdale Clo E2	8 F2	Trafalgar Studios SW1	13 B3
Soho St W1	13 A1	Stockwell St SE10	23 B2	Teesdale St E2	8 F2	Tranquil Vale SE3	24 D5
Somers Cres W2	11 A1	Stone Bldgs WC2	14 D1	Telegraph St EC2	15 B1	Treasury, The SW1	13 B5
South Audley St W1	12 D3	Stonfield St N1	6 E1	Temple EC4	14 E2	Treaty St N1	5 C1
South Eaton Pl SW1	20 D2	Stones End St SE1	15 A5	Temple Ave EC4	14 E2	Trebovir Rd SW5	17 C3
South Edwardes Sq W8	17 C1	Stoney La E1	16 D1	Temple Bar		Tregunter Rd SW10	18 E4
South End Clo NW3	2 D5	Stoney St SE1	15 B3	Memorial WC2	14 D2	Trevanion Rd W14	17 A2
South End Rd NW3	1 C5	Stonor Rd W14	17 B2	Temple La EC4	14 E2	Trevor Pl SW7	11 B5
South Gro N6	2 F1	Store St WC1	5 A5	Temple Pl WC2	14 D2	Trevor Sq SW7	11 B5
South Hill Pk NW3	2 D5	Storey's Gate SW1	13 B5	Temple St E2	8 F2	Trevor St SW7	11 B5
South Hill Pk Gdns NW3	2 D4	Stormont Rd N6	2 D1	Templeton Pl SW5	17 C2	Trinity Church Sq SE1	15 A5
South Island Pl SW9	22 D5	Stowage SE8	23 A2	Tent St E1	8 F4	Trinity Sq EC3	16 D2
South Lambeth Pl SW8	21 C4	Straightsmouth St SE10	23 B3	Tenterden St W1	12 E2	Trinity Sq NW1	4 F4
South Lambeth Rd SW8	21 C4	Strand WC2	13 B3	Terminus Pl SW1	20 F1	Tudor St EC4	14 E2
South Molton La W1	12 E2	Strand La WC2	14 D2	Tetcott Rd SW10	18 E5	Tufton St SW1	21 B1
South Molton St W1	12 E2	Stratford Rd W8	18 D1	Thames St SE10	23 A2	Turin St E2	8 E3
South Parade SW3	19 A3	Stratheden Rd SE3	24 F4	Thanet St WC1	5 B3	Turk's Row SW3	19 C3
South Pl EC2	7 B5	Stratton St W1	12 E3	Thaxton Rd W14	17 B4		20 D3
South Row SE3	24 E5	Streatham St WC1	13 B1	Thayer St W1	12 D1	Turners Wood NW11	1 A1
South St W1	12 D3	Streathley Pl NW3	1 B4	Theatre Royal WC2	13 C2	Turnville Rd W14	17 B4
South Tenter St E1	16 E2	Strode Rd SW6	17 A5	Theatre Royal		Turnmill St EC1	6 E5
South Terr SW7	19 A2	Strutton Ground SW1	21 A1	Haymarket WC2	13 A3	Turnpike La SW1	20 E3
South Wharf Rd W2	11 A1	Sturt St N1	7 A2	Theberton St N1	6 E1	Thurtle Rd E2	8 E1
Southampton Pl WC1	13 C1	Stutfield St E1	16 F2	Theed St SE1	14 E4	Tuskar St SE10	24 D1
Southampton Row WC1	5 C5	Sudeley St N1	6 F2	Theobald's Rd WC1	5 C5	Twyford St N1	5 C1
Southampton St WC2	13 C2	Suffolk La EC4	15 B2		6 D5	Tyers Gate SE1	15 C5
Southern St N1	5 C2	Suffolk Pl SW1	13 A3	Thessaly Rd SW8	20 F5	Tyers St SE11	22 D2
Southwark Bridge SE1	15 A3	Suffolk St WC1	13 B3	Thirleby Rd SW1	20 F1	Tyers Terr SE11	22 D3
Southwark Bridge Rd SE1	15 A4	Summer Pl SW7	19 A2	Thistle Gro SW7	18 F3	Tyler St SE10	24 E
Southwark Cathedral EC1	15 B3	Sumner St SE1	15 A3	Thomas More St E1	16 E3		
Southwark St SE1	14 F3	Sun Rd W14	17 B3	Thoresby St N1	7 A3		
	15 A4	Sun St EC2	7 C5	Thorncroft St SW8	21 B5	U	
Southwell Gdns SW7	18 E1	Sunderland Terr W2	10 D1	Thorney St SW1	21 B1	Ufford St SE1	14 E4
Southwick St W2	11 A1	Surrey Row SE1	14 F4	Thornham St SE10	23 A2	Ulundi Rd SE3	24 E2
Southwood La N6	2 F1	Surrey St WC2	14 D2	Thornhaugh St WC1	5 B5	Underwood Rd E1	8 F5
Spa Fields EC1	6 E4	Sussex Gdns W2	11 A1	Thrale St SE1	15 A4	Underwood St N1	7 B3
Spaniards Clo NW11	1 B1	Sussex Pl NW1	3 C4	Thrawl St E1	8 E5	Unicorn Pass SE1	16 D3
Spaniards End NW3	1 B1	Sussex Pl W2	11 A2	Threadneedle St EC4	15 B2	Union Sq N1	7 A1
Spaniards Rd NW3	1 A3	Sussex Sq W2	11 A2	Throgmorton Ave EC2	15 C1	Union St SE1	14 F4
Sparta St SE10	23 A4	Sussex St SW1	20 F3	Throgmorton St EC2	15 B1		15 A4
Speakers' Corner W2	11 C2	Sutherland Pl W2	9 C1	Thurloe Pl SW7	19 A1	Union Wlk E2	8 D3
Spedan Clo NW3	1 A4	Sutherland St SW1	20 E3	Thurloe Sq SW7	19 A1	University St WC1	5 A4
Spelman St E1	8 E5	Sutton Row W1	13 A1	Thurloe St SW7	19 A2	University College WC1	5 A4
Spencer House SW1	12 F4	Swain's La N6	2 F1	Thurlow Rd NW3	1 B5	University College	
Spencer St EC1	6 F3	Swallow St W1	12 F3	Tiber Gdns N1	5 C1	Hospital Wlk	5 A4
Spenser St SW1	20 F1	Swan La EC4	15 B3	Tilney St W1	12 D3	Uperne Rd SW10	18 E5
Spital Sq E1	8 D5	Swan La Pier SE1	15 B3	Tilton St SW6	17 B4	Upper St N1	6 F1
Spital St E1	8 E5	Swan St SE1	15 A5	Tinworth St SE11	21 C3	Upper Terr NW3	1 A4

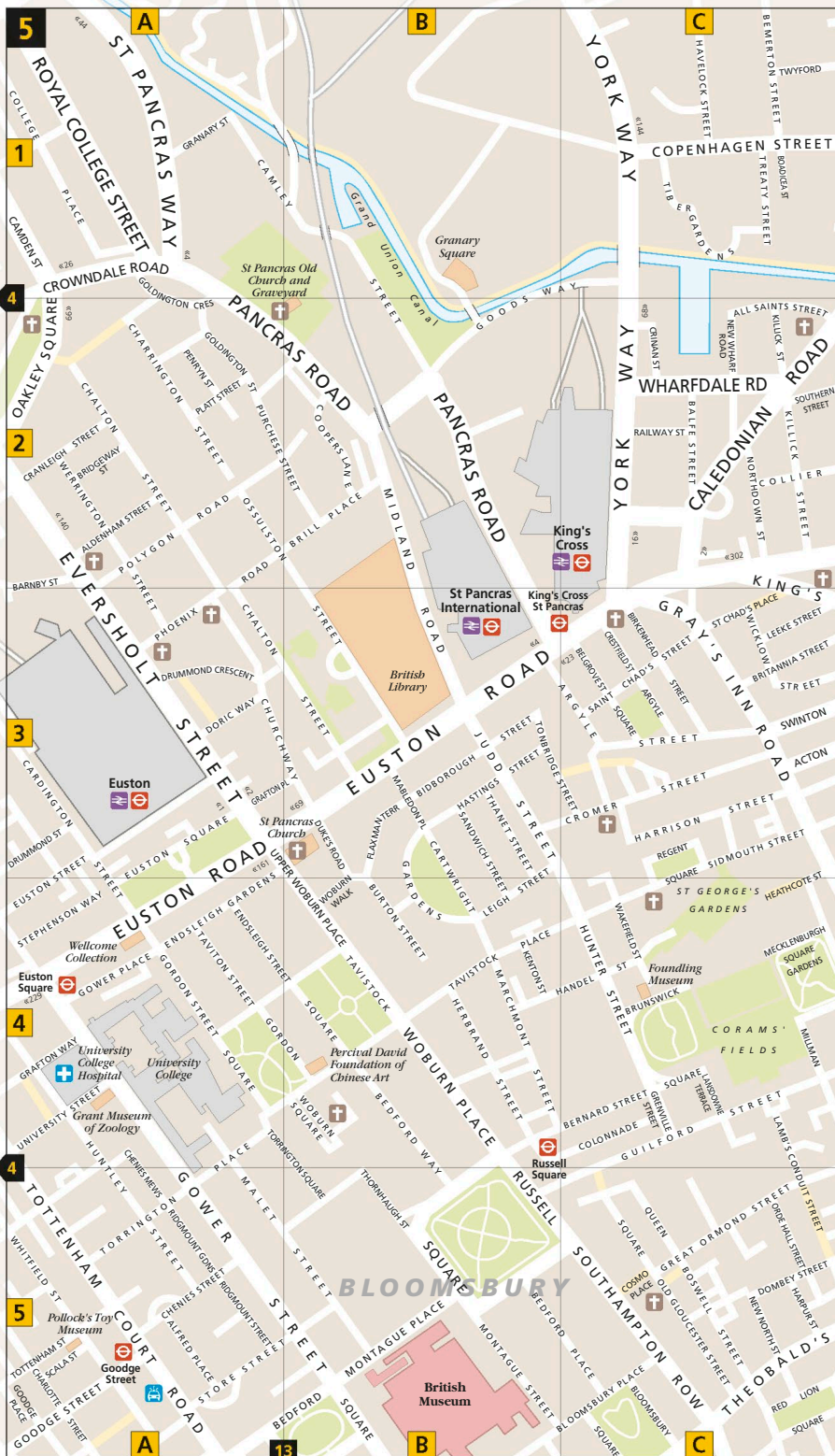
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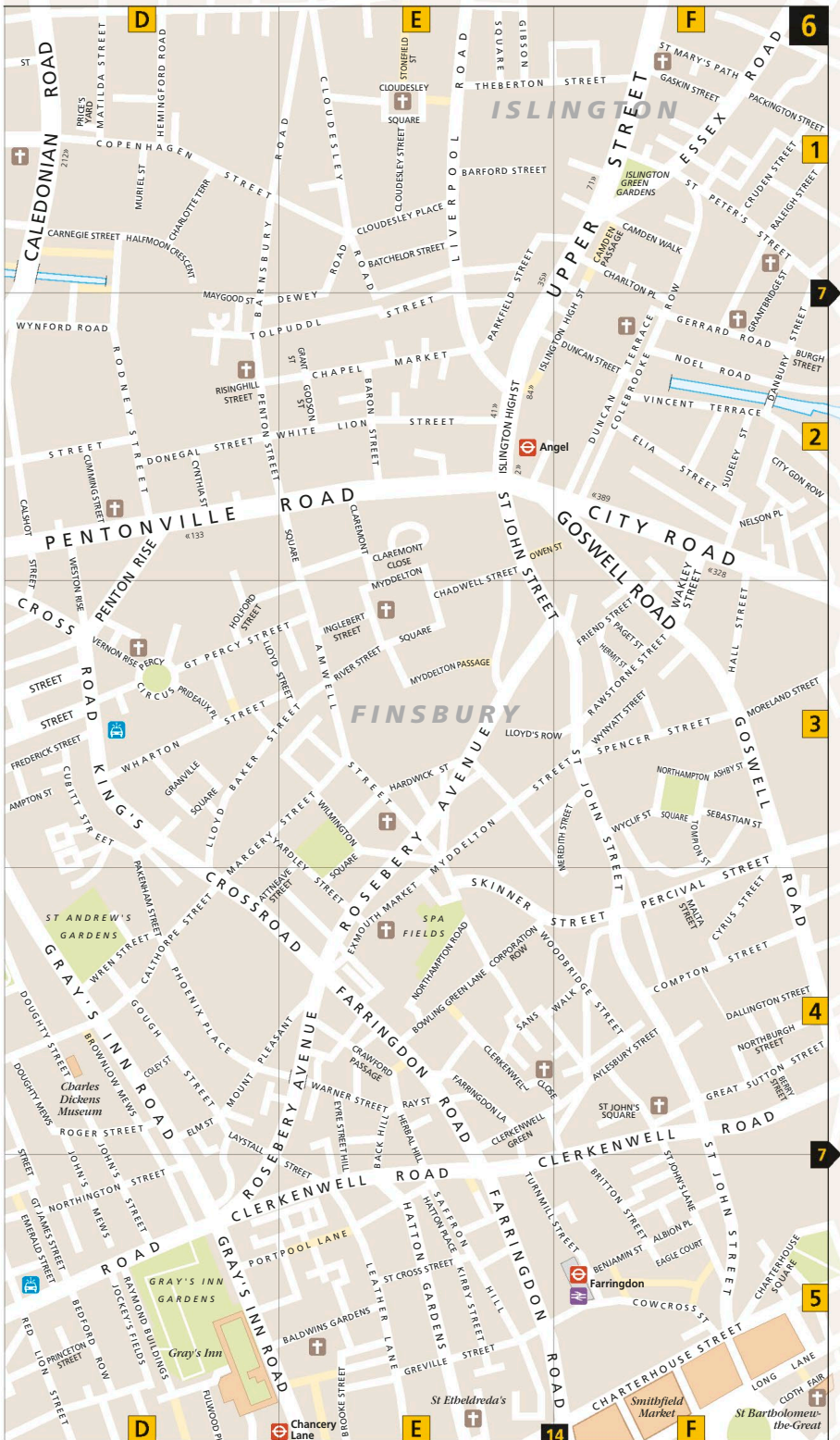


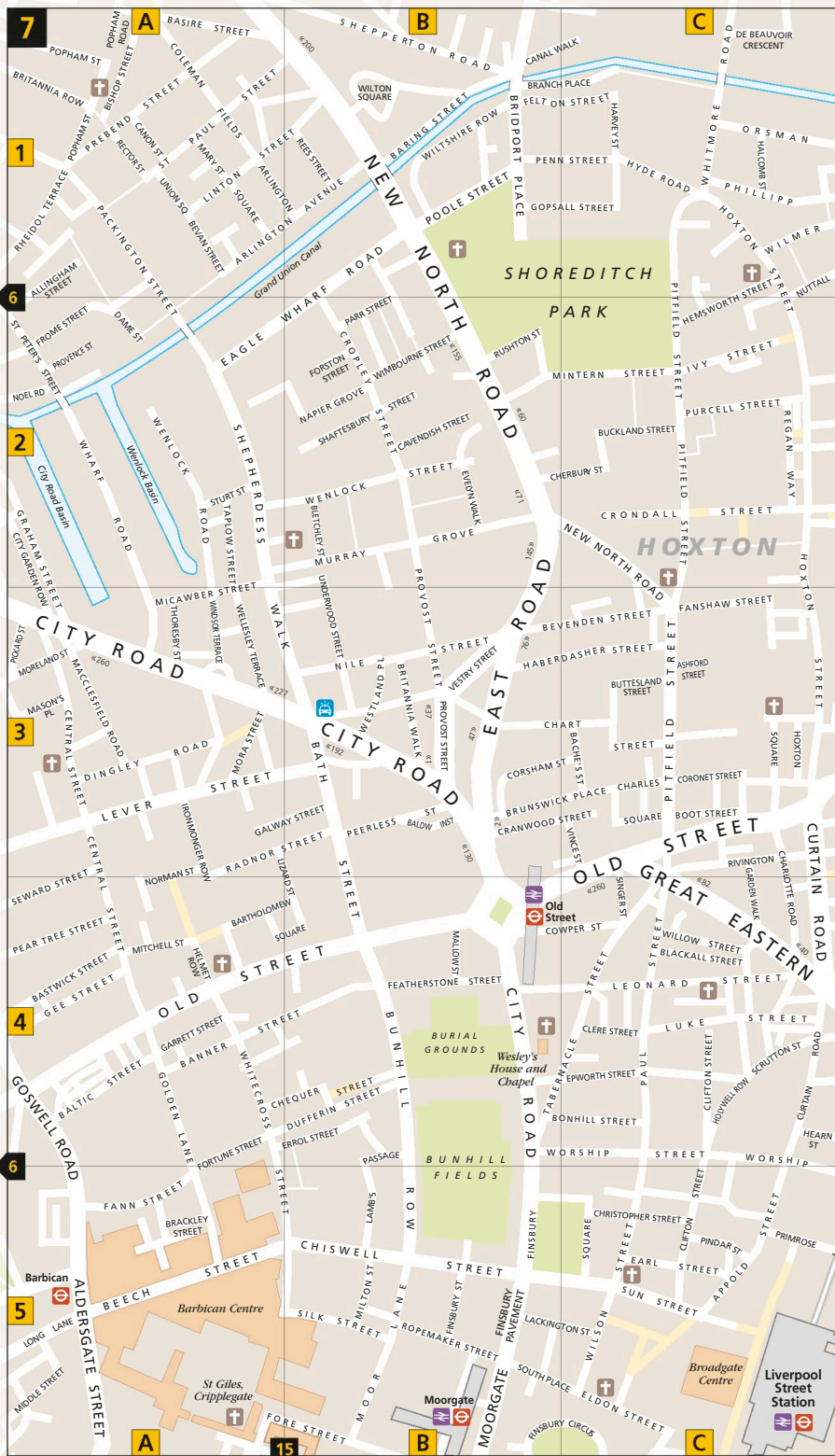


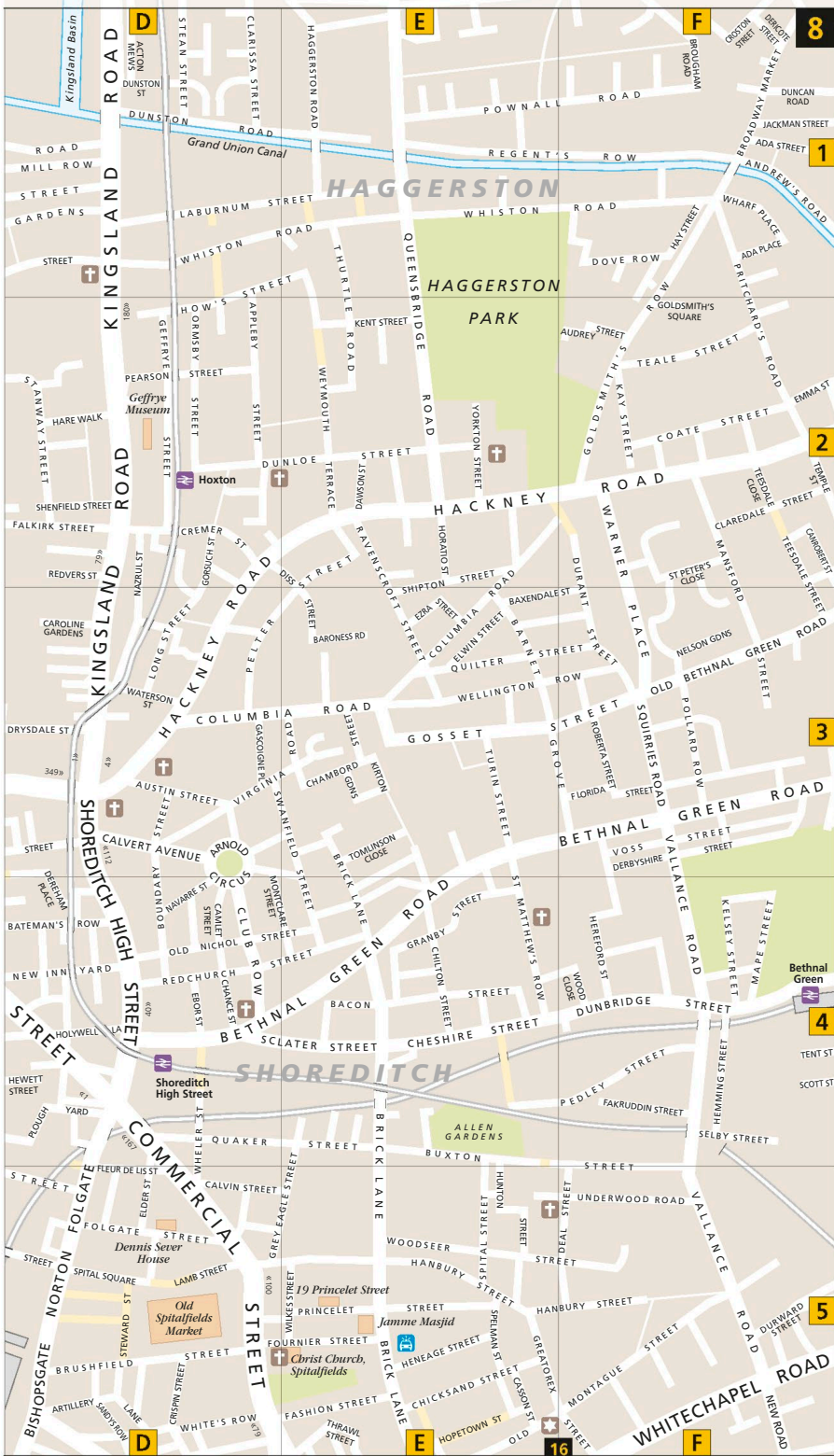


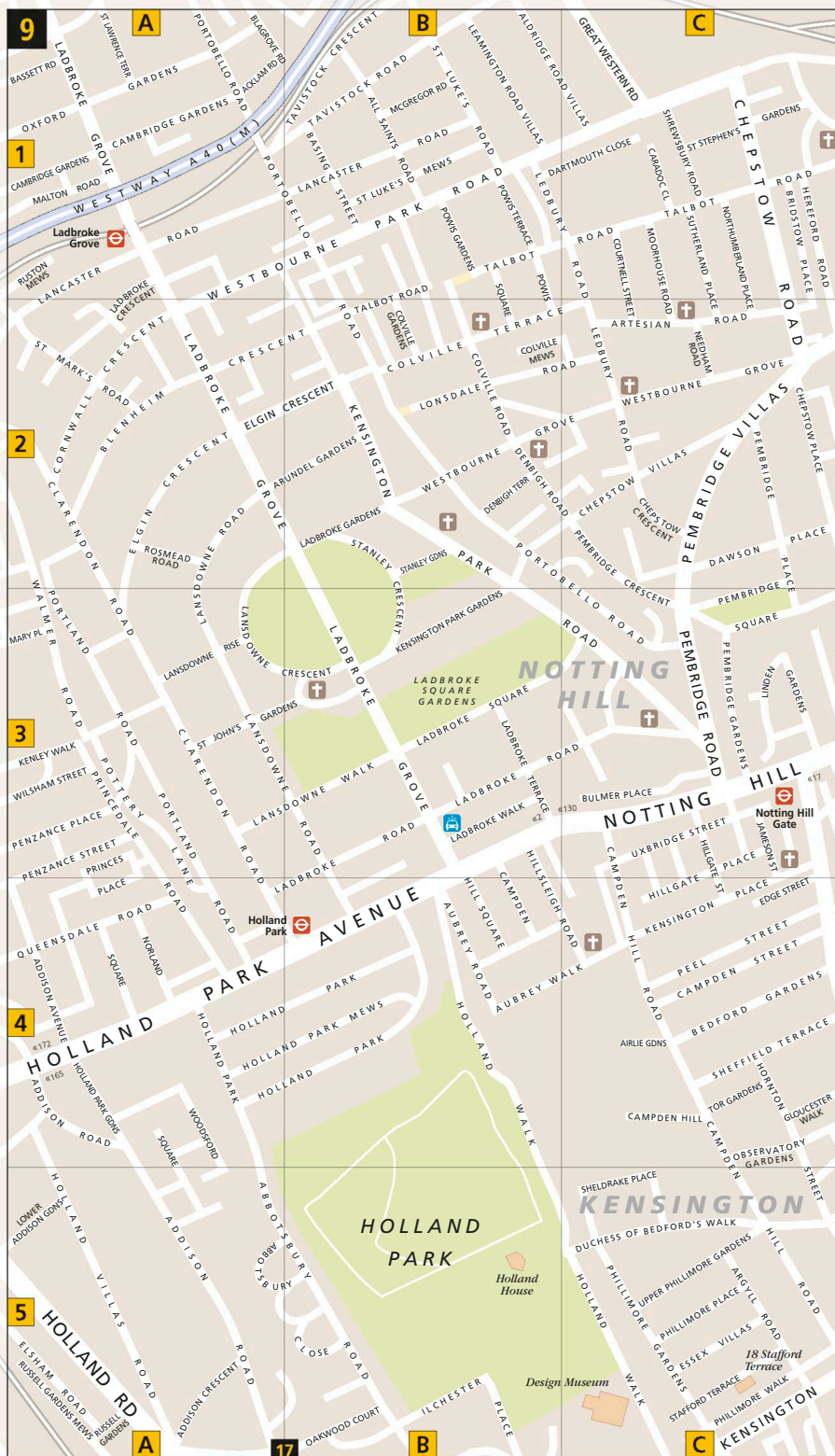














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11

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3

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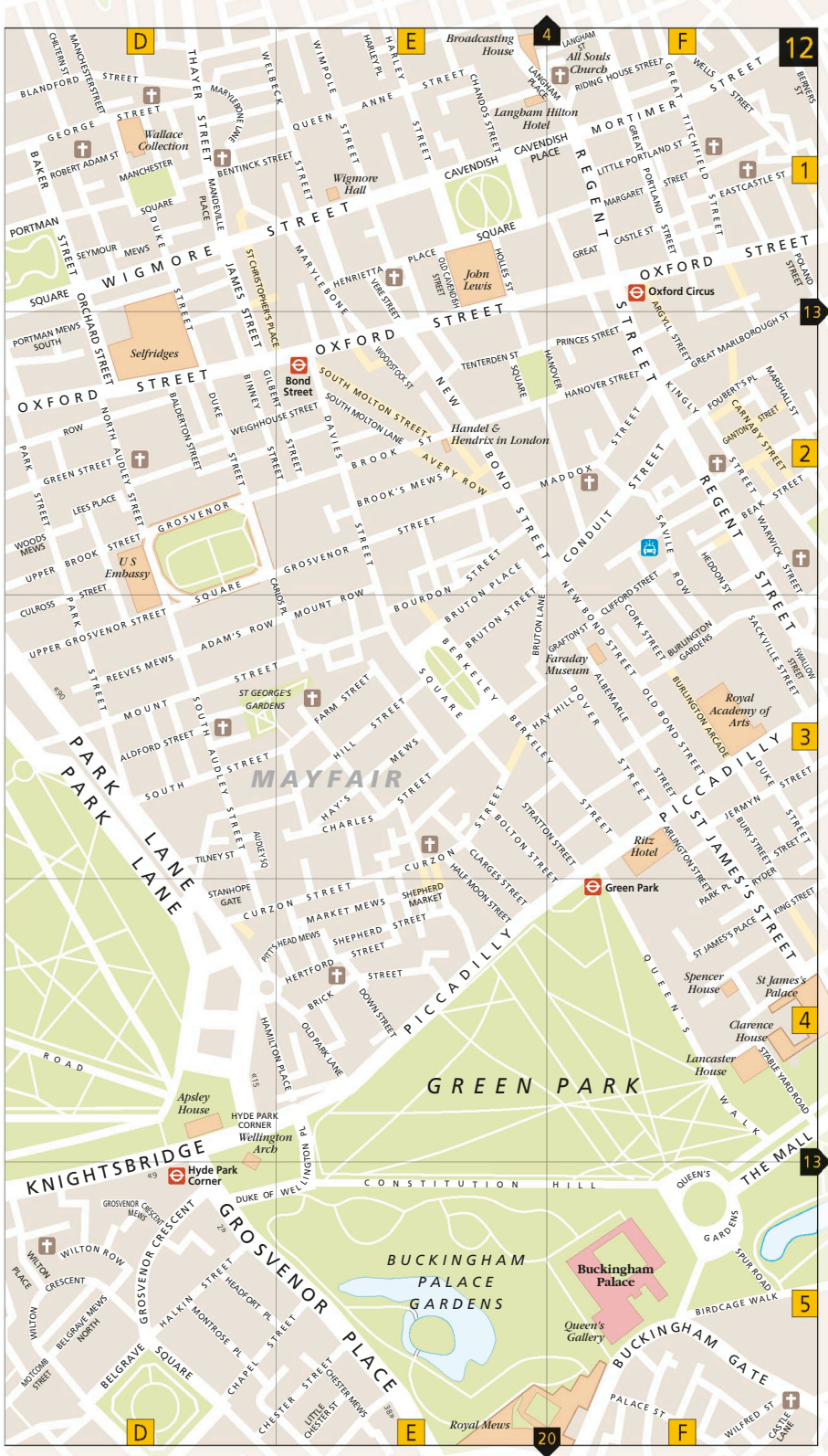
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E

F

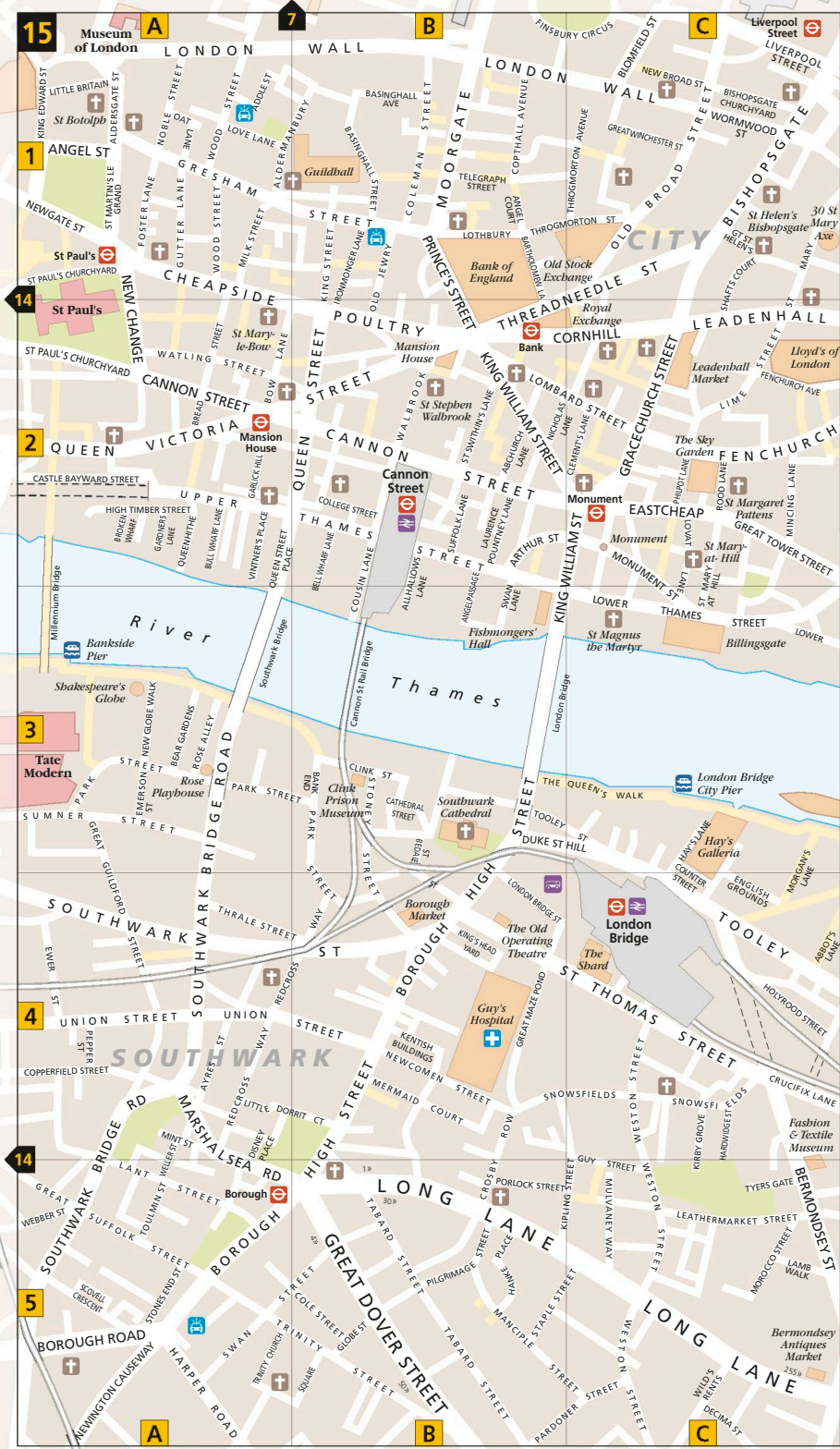
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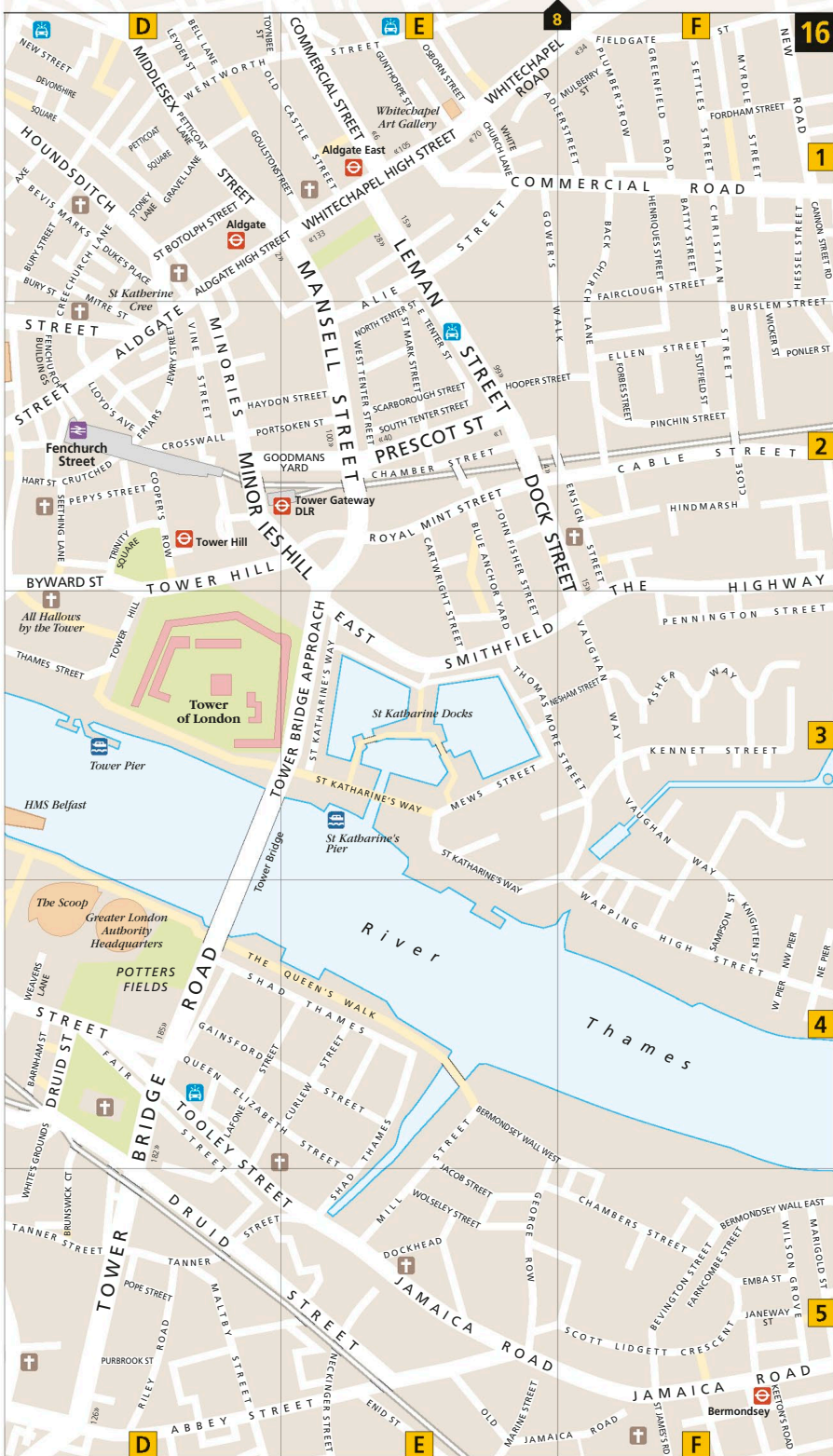


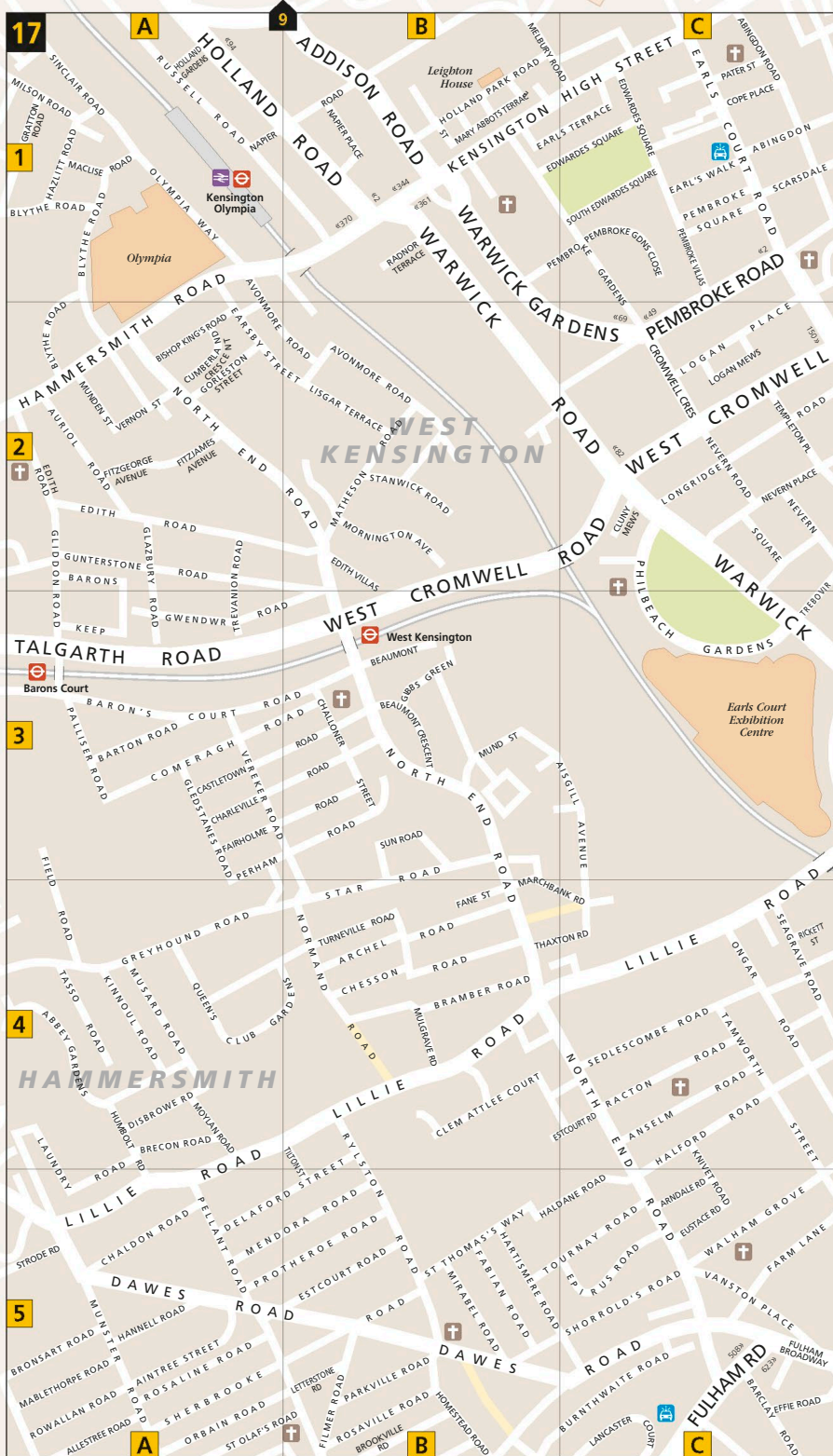


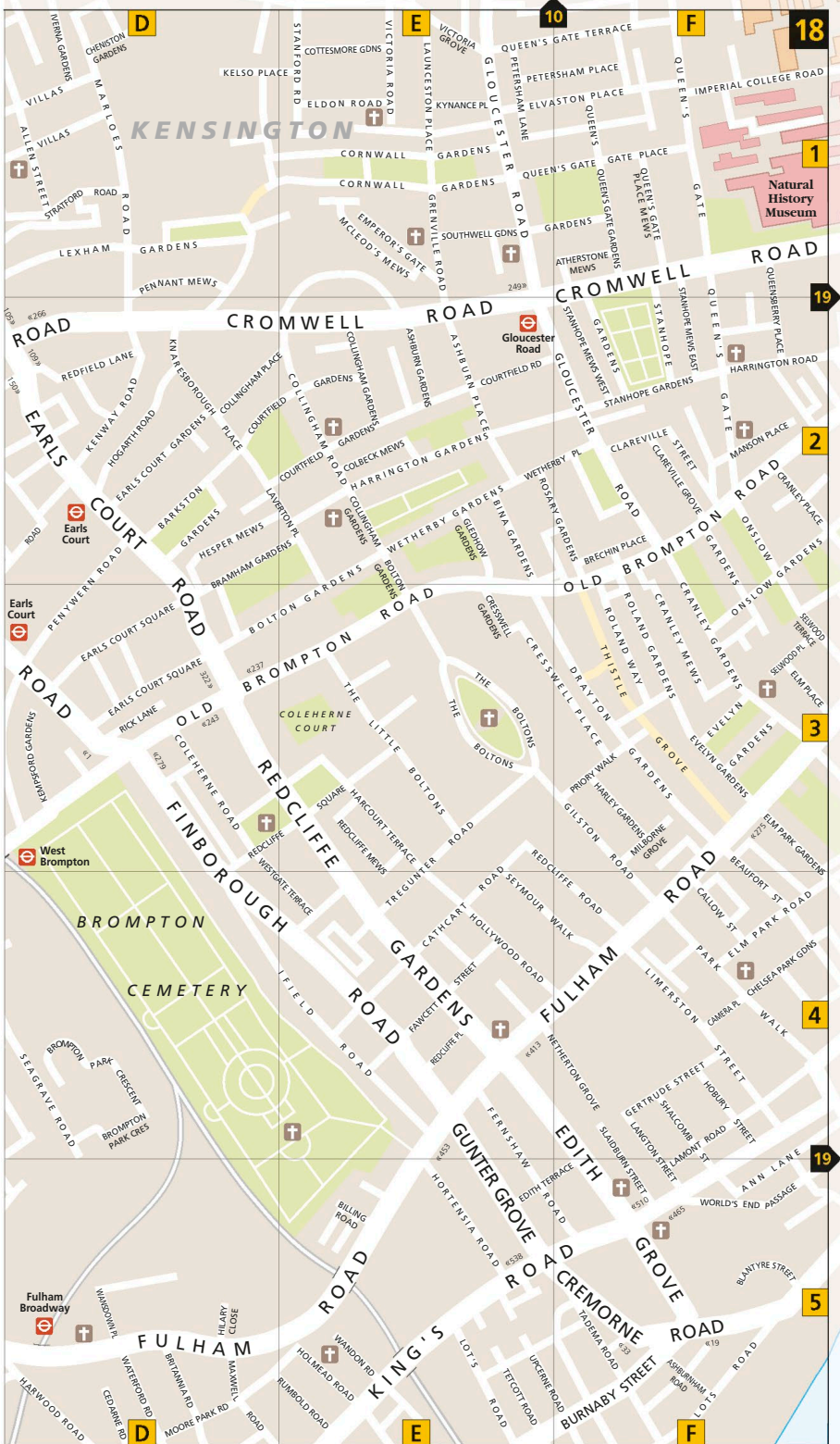


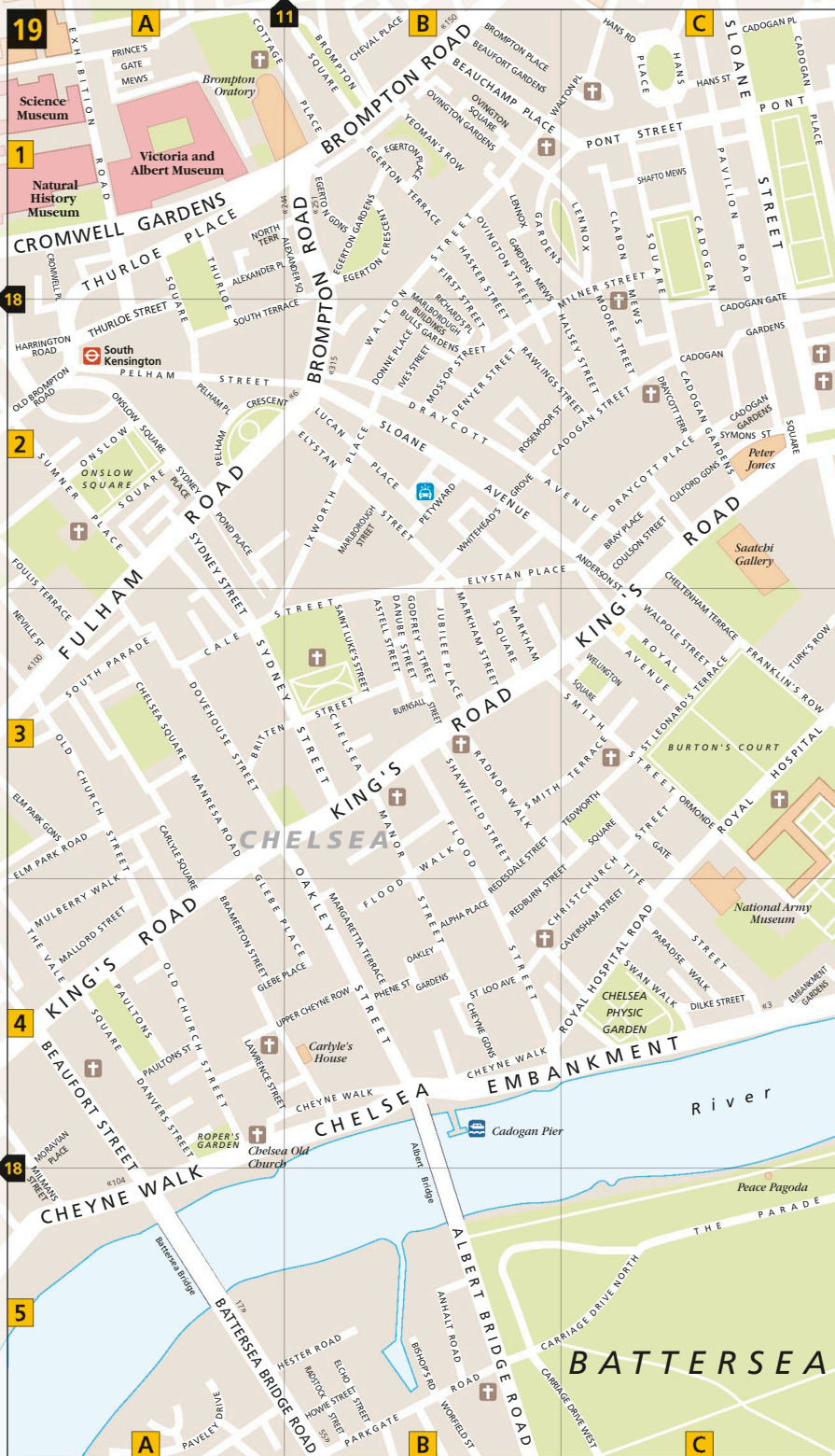


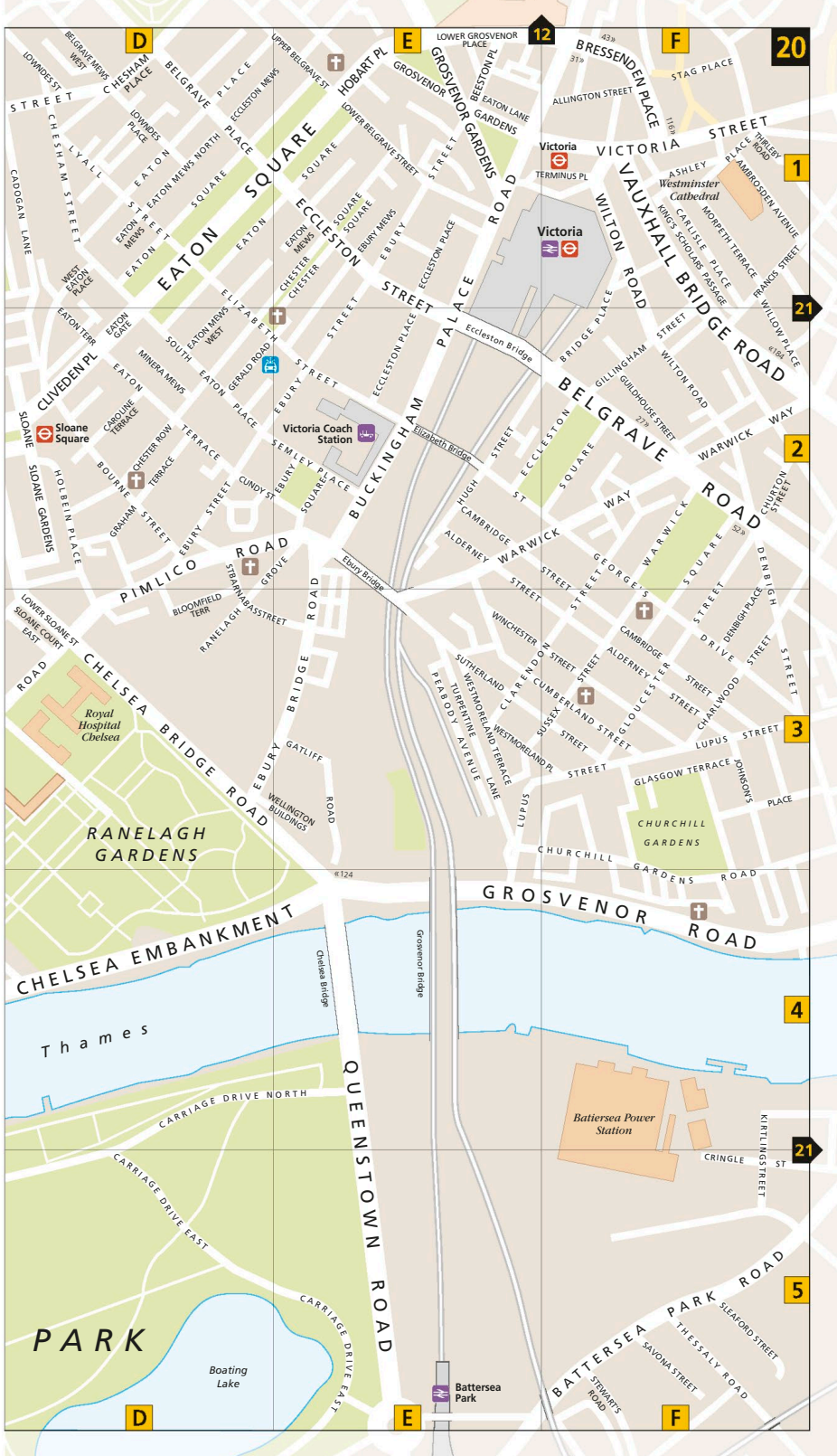


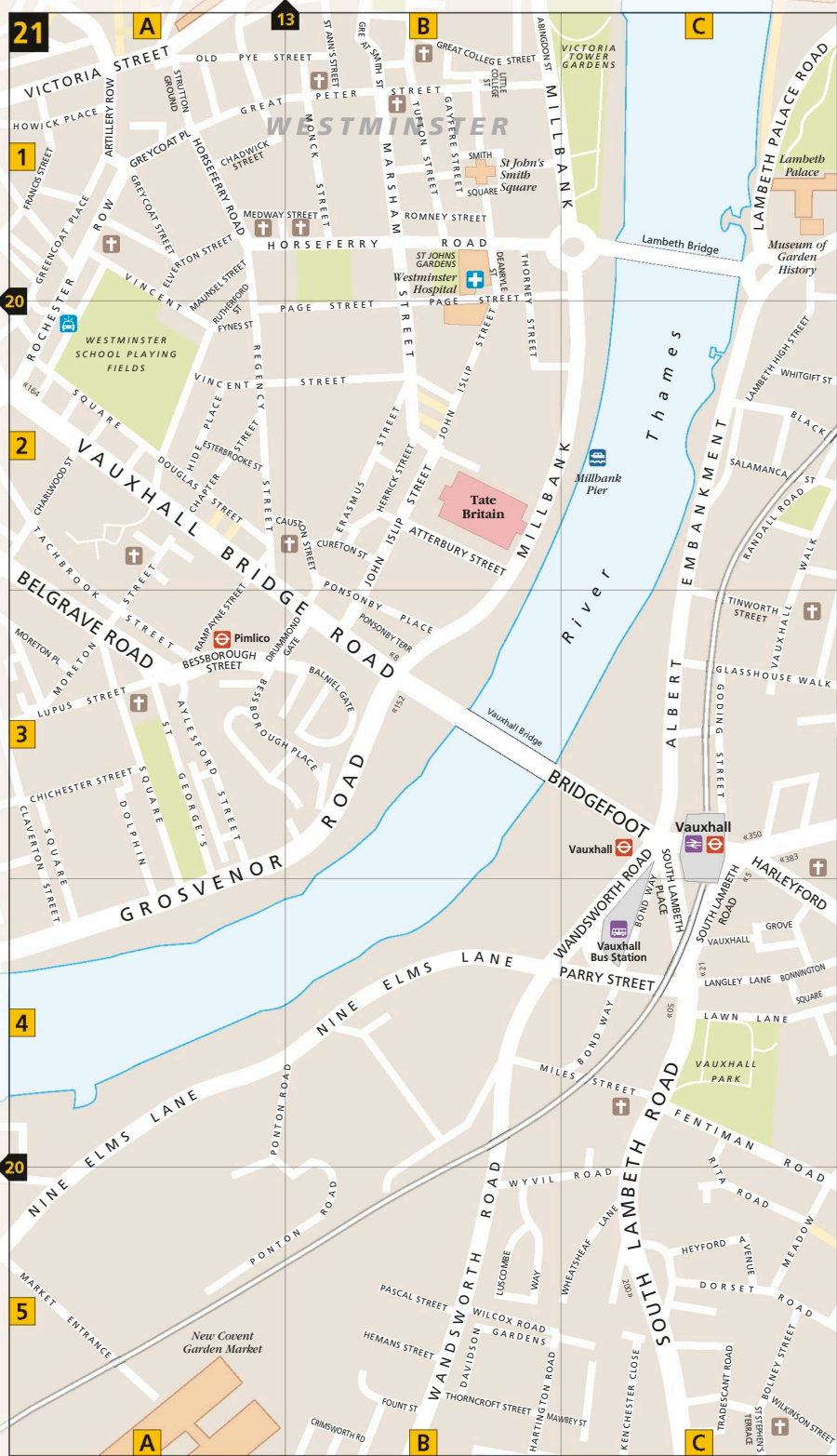


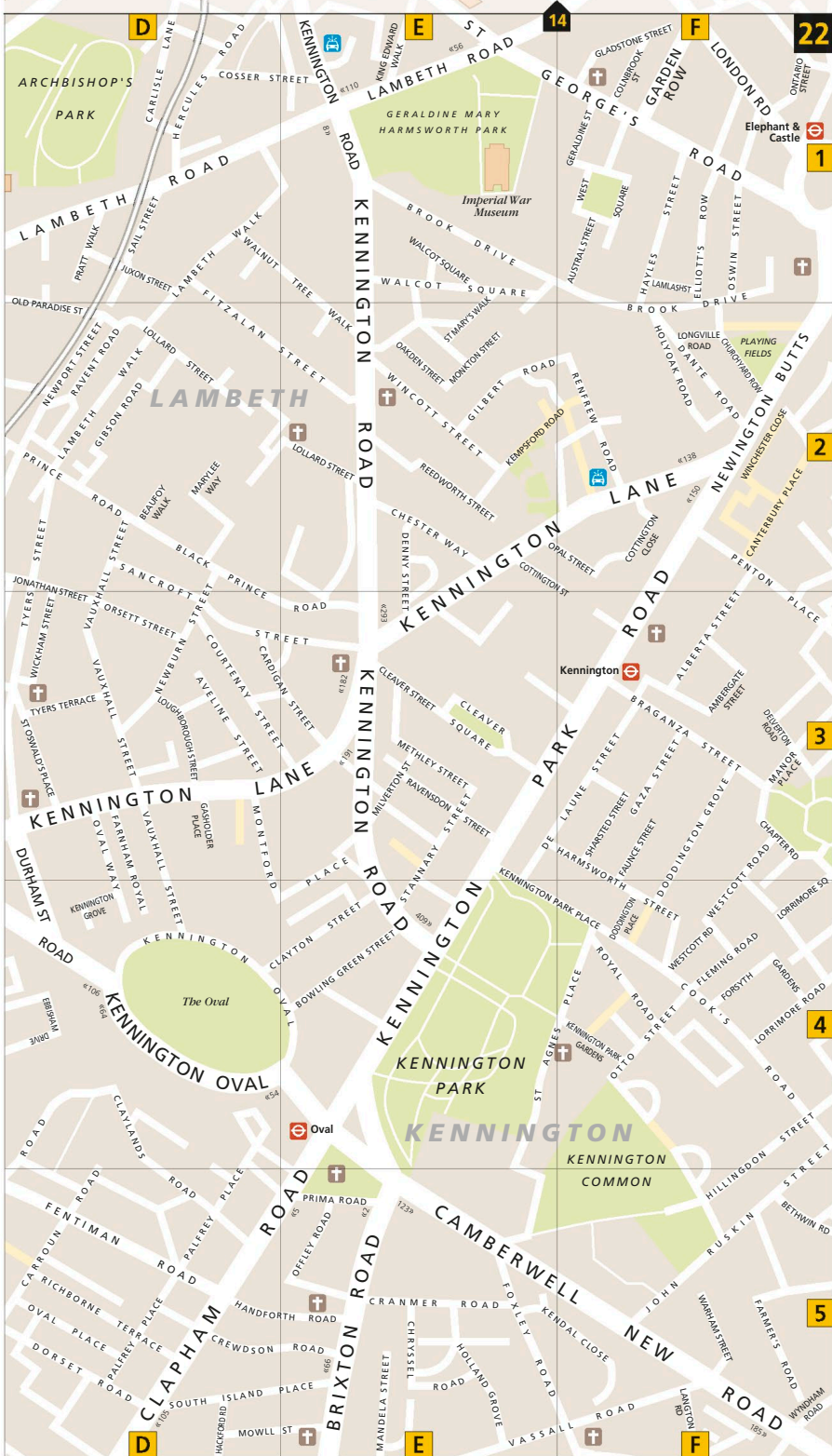




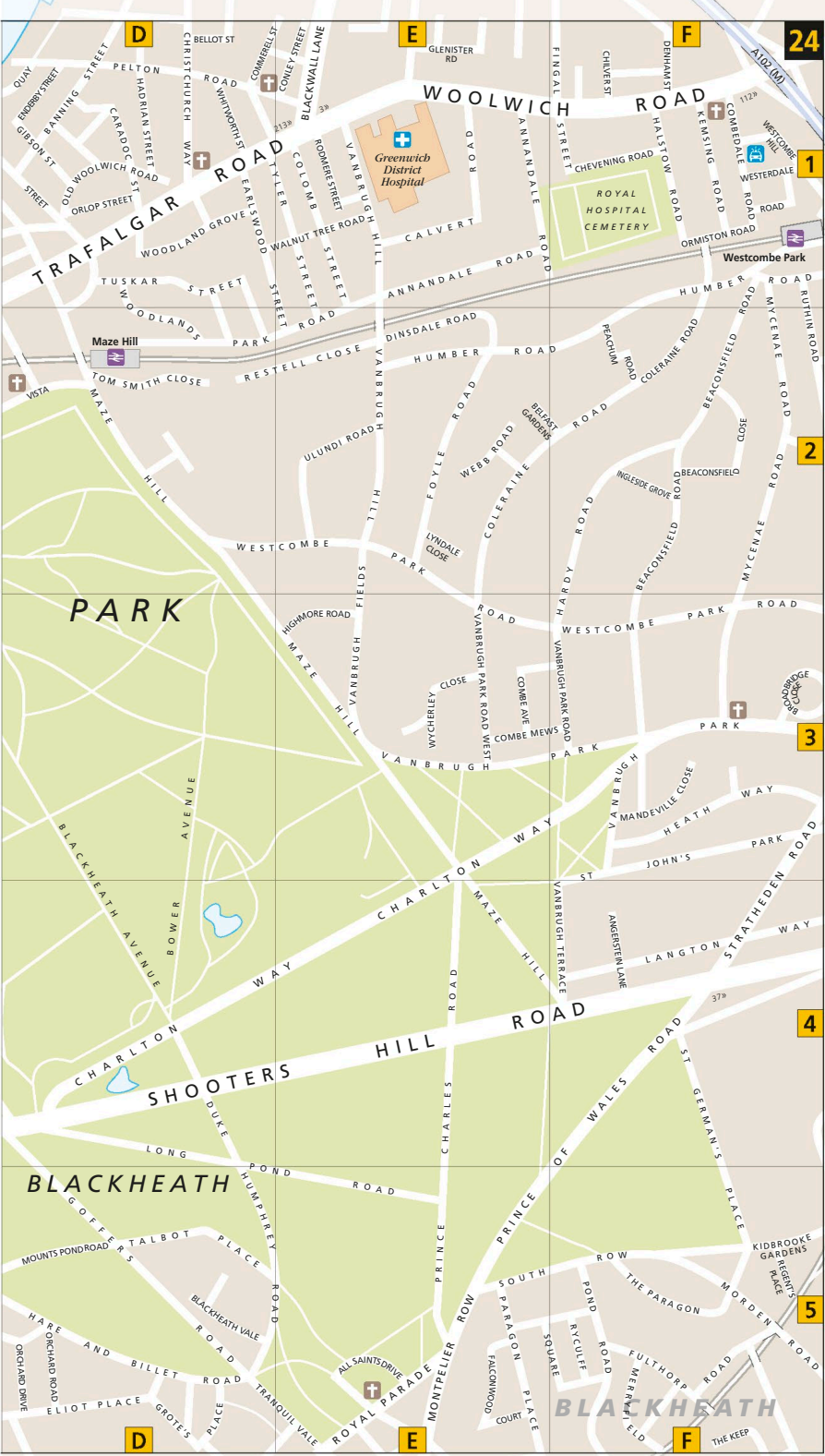












24

1

2

3

4

5

D

E

F

D

E

F

General Index

Page numbers in **bold** type refer to main entries

A

Abakanowicz, Magdalena 185
 Abbeys
 Westminster Abbey 10, 12, 13, 22, 48, 50, 74, **80–83**
 Accommodation **284–91**
 Acklam Village Market 281
 Ackroyd, Peter 43
 Actors **43**
 Adam, James 28, 42, 229
 Adam, John 123
 Adam, Robert 28, 42
 Adelphi 123
 Apsley House 100
 Fitzroy Square 135
 Kenwood House 238–9
 Lansdowne House 276
 Osterley Park House 259
 Portland Place 229
 Syon House 259, 275
 Adams, John 101
 Adelphi **123**
 Adelphi Theatre **120**
 Admiral's House
 Street-by-Street map 234
 Admiralty Arch **106**
 Street-by-Street map 105
 Admission prices 359
The Adoration of the Kings
 (Brueghel) 110
 Affordable art **333, 334**
 Ai Weiwei 185
 Air travel **370–73**
 Airports **370–73**
 hotels **373**
 map 371
 Albany
 Street-by-Street map 92
 Albert, Prince Consort 30
 Albert Memorial 205, **209**
 Royal Albert Hall 209
 statues of 209
 Victoria and Albert Museum 214
 Albert Bridge 272
 Street-by-Street map 199
 Albert Hall Mansions
 Street-by-Street map 205
 Albert Memorial 202, **209**
 Street-by-Street map 205
 Alexander, Helene 247
 Alexandra, Queen 97
 Alexandra Palace **251**
 Alfieri, Vittorio 97
 Alfred the Great, King of Wessex 21, 142
 Algerian Coffee Stores 113
 Ali, Mohammed, Viceroy of Egypt 122
 Ali, Monica 43
 All Hallows by the Tower **157**
 All Saints' Church (Isleworth) 274
 All Saints' Church (Talbot Road) 281

All Souls, Langham Place **229**
 London's Best: Churches 48, 51
 Alsop, Will 376
 Altdorfer, Albrecht 110
The Ambassadors (Holbein) 109, 110
 Ambulances 363
 Amis, Kingsley 236
 The Anchor **186**
 Street-by-Street map 179
 Andre, Carl 185
 Anne, Princess Royal 99
 Anne, Queen 39
 Kensington Palace 212
 statue of 84
 Anne of Denmark 244
The Annunciation (Lippi) 110
 Antiques shops **332–4**
 Antonello da Messina
 St Jerome in his Study 110
 Apothecaries' Hall **156**
 Apple Market **336**
 Apsley, Baron 100
 Apsley House 42, **100–101**
 Aquarium, Sea Life London 192, 278
 Archer, Thomas 85
 Architecture
 architects **42**
 church spires **50**
 Modern London **34–5**
 Underground railway stations **376**
 Archway Market **335**
 Arnold, Benedict 257
 Art
 shopping **332–4**
 see also Museums and galleries
 Art Antiques London 61
 Artists **42–3**
 Ashcroft, Dame Peggy 43
 Asian restaurants 295
At the Theatre (Renoir) 109, 111
 Athletics **350**
 ATMs 364–5
 Auctions **333, 334**
 Audley End 380
 Augusta, Princess 266
 Austen, Jane 43
 Authors **43**
 Autumn in London 62
 Aylward, June 280

B

Bacon, Francis 43, 184
 Three Studies for Figures at the Base of a Crucifixion 86, 88
 Baden-Powell, Lord 168, 257
 Baer, Jo 185
 Bag shops **329, 330**
 Baird, John Logie 113
 Ballet **346**
 Bank of England 27, 28
 Bank of England Museum **151**
 Street-by-Street map 149
 Banking **364–5**
 Banknotes 365
 Banks, Sir Joseph 266

Bankside see Southwark and
 Bankside
 Bankside Gallery **181, 279**
 Banksian Power Station **184**
 Banqueting House 10, 26, 27, **84**
 A River View of London 66
 Street-by-Street map 75
 BAPS Shri Swaminarayan Mandir **250–51**
The Baptism of Christ (Piero della Francesca) 108, 110
A Bar at the Folies-Bergère (Manet) 45
 Bar Italia 113
 Barbican 54, **172**
 Barbican Concert Hall **345**
 Street-by-Street map 167
 Barrie, J M 212
 Barry, Sir Charles 42
 Houses of Parliament 75, 76, 77, 216
 Hunterian Museum 138
 Pall Mall 96
 Barry, E M 119, 123
 Bars **313–15**
 Bath, day trips to 380
 Battersea
 Chelsea and Battersea walk **272–3**
 Battersea Park **257, 272**
 London's Best: Parks and Gardens 53, 54, 55
 Battersea Power Station 193
 Baylis, Lilian 195
 Bayswater
 pubs and bars 315
 Bazalgette, Sir Joseph 30, 42
 BBC 32
 Alexandra Palace 251
 Broadcasting House **229**
 Beating the Bounds 60
 Beating the Retreat 58, 59, 61
 The Beatles 34, 171
 Beckman, Max 184
 Bed & breakfast 291
 Bedford, Francis Russell, 5th Duke of
 statue of 127
 Bedford Square
 Street-by-Street map 126
 Beer **312**
Belfast, HMS 12, 13, 69, **187**
 Belgravia
 Mayfair and Belgravia walk **276–7**
 pubs and bars 315
 Bell, Larry
 Untitled 185
 Bell, Vanessa 43, 132
 Belle, Dido 238
 Bellini, Giovanni 110, 121
 Doge Leonardo Loredan 108
 Bentley, John Francis 51, 85
 Bergonzoli, Giulio 245
 Berkeley Square 29, 54, 276
 Bermondsey Market **335**
 Bermondsey Street **186–7**

- Berwick Street Market 13, **112, 335**
 Betjeman, John 133, 168
 Beuys, Joseph 184
 Bevis, L Cubitt 198
 BFI London IMAX **343**
 BFI Southbank 278, **343**
 Street-by-Street map 190
 Bicycles **375**
 Big Ben 13, 72, 76, **78**
 Street-by-Street map 75
 Binning, Lady 237
 Birley, Oswald
 George VI 33
 Black Death (1348) 22, 23
 Blackfriars Bridge 67, 279
 Blackheath **247**
 see also Greenwich and
 Blackheath
 Blacklands Terrace 273
 Blair, Tony 36
 Blake, Sir Peter 88, 204, 209
 Blake, William
 Bunhill Fields 172
 St James's Church 94
 St Mary's, Battersea 257
 Tate Britain 89
 Blewcoat School **85**
 Bligh, William
 tomb 194
 Blitz (1940–41) 32, **33**
 Blomfield, Sir Arthur 208
 "Blood, Colonel" 159
 Bloomsbury and Fitzrovia 13,
 125–35
 area map 125
 bed & breakfast 291
 Bloomsbury: Street-by-Street
 map 126–7
 British Museum **128–31**
 hotels 288–91
 pubs and bars 314
 restaurants 301–2
 Bloomsbury Group 43, 132, 236
 Bloomsbury Square **132**
 Street-by-Street map 127
 Blore, Edward 194
 Blue plaques **43**
 Blue Posts pub
 Street-by-Street map 104
 Boats
 Cutty Sark 242, **245**
 A Day on the River 11
 getting to London **369**
 Golden Hinde II 11, 179, 279
 Greenwich Pier 242
 HMS *Belfast* 12, 13, 69, **187**
 National Maritime Museum
 243, **244**
 Oxford and Cambridge Boat
 Race 57, 60
 riverboats 65, **379**
 Boer War 31
 Boetti, Alighiero 185
 Boleyn, Anne 192
 execution 24, 159, 258
 Hampton Court 262
 Book shops **326, 327**
 Borough Market 12, 176, **180, 335**
 South Bank walk 279
 Street-by-Street map 179
 Bosch, Hieronymus 110
 Boswell, James 117, 144
 Boswells
 Street-by-Street map 117
 Botticelli, Sandro 110, 121
 Boucher, François 111, 120
 Boudicca, Queen 20
 statue of 75, 278
 Bourchier, Elizabeth 169
 Bourgeois, Louise 184, 185
 Bow Street Police station
 Street-by-Street map 117
Boy and Dolphin (Wynne) 199, 273
 Brâncusi, Constantin
 Fish 183, 185
 Brandt, Edgar 171
 Brawne, Fanny 237
 Breakfast **308, 310**
 Brentford 275
 Bric-a-brac shops **333, 334**
 Brick Lane **174**
 Brick Lane Jamme Masjid **174**
 Brick Lane Market 319, **335**
 Bridges
 Albert Bridge 199, 272
 Blackfriars Bridge 67, 279
 Chelsea Bridge 272
 Holborn Viaduct **144**
 Hungerford Bridge 190, 278
 London Bridge 18, 22–3, 26, 35,
 179
 Millennium Bridge 279
 Southwark Bridge 178
 Tower Bridge 11, 12, 13, 64, 69,
 157
 Twickenham Bridge 274
 Waterloo Bridge 191
 Brighton, day trips to 380
 British Library **133**
 British Museum 13, **128–31**
 Africa 131
 Ancient Near East 130
 Asia 131
 Egypt 130
 Europe 130
 floorplan 128–9
 Great Court 40, 124, **131**
 Greece and Rome 131
 London's Best: Museums and
 Galleries 44, 46
 Prehistoric and Roman Britain
 130
 Reading Room **131**
 Street-by-Street map 126
 Visitors' checklist 129
 Britten, Benjamin 208
 Brixton Market **335**
 Broadcasting House **229**
 Broadgate Arena **345**
 Broadway Market **335**
 Brompton Cemetery 55
 Brompton Oratory **208**
 London's Best: Churches 48, 51
 Street-by-Street map 205
 Brompton Square
 Street-by-Street map 205
 Brougham, Lord 140
 Brown, Capability 258, 259, 275
 Browning, Elizabeth Barrett 226,
 228
 Browning, Robert 226, 228
 Brueghel, Pieter the Elder 121
The Adoration of the Kings 110
 Buckingham, Duke of 122
 Buckingham Palace 17, **98–9**
 Great days in London 10, 12, 13
 London Eye view 193
 London's Best: Ceremonies 56,
 58
 Buddhist Peace Pagoda 272
 Budget travel **360, 361**
 hotels 286–7, 291
 restaurants 292
 theatre 342
 Bunhill Fields 55, **172**
 Bunyan, John 172
 Burbage, Cuthbert 175
 Burbage, Richard 175
 Bureaux de change 364
 Burger joints **309, 310–11**
 Burgh, Rev Allatson 236
 Burgh House **236**
 Street-by-Street map 235
Burgers of Calais (Rodin) 74
 Burlington, 3rd Earl of 264–5
 Burlington Arcade 11, **94**
 Street-by-Street map 92
 Burlington House Cartoon
 (Leonardo da Vinci) 108
 Burne-Jones, Edward 23
 Downshire Hill 237
 Kensington Square 223
 Leighton House 222
 Burns, Robert
 statue of 122
 Burton, Decimus 42
 Pall Mall 96
 Palm House (Kew Gardens) 267
 Wellington Arch 100
 Buses **378–9**
 Bush, Irving T 122
 Bush House **122**
 Byfield, John 252
 Byrne, Charles 141
 Byron, Lord 222, 228, 239
- C**
 Cable Car, Emirates Air Line **253**
 Caesar, Julius 19, 20
 Cafés 292, **308, 310**
 Tate Britain 87
 Cambridge, day trips to 380
 Cambridge, Catherine, Duchess
 of 37, 81
 Cambridge, Prince George, Duke
 of 213
 Cambridge, Prince William, Duke
 of 37, 80, 81
 Camden Lock Market **335–6**
 Camden Market **250**
 Camden Passage Market **336**

- Canada Tower 35
 Canaletto 111, 257
 Rome: The Pantheon 98
 Canal, Regent's **231**, 268, **270–71**
 Canary Wharf 35, 240, **253**, 271
 Canova, Antonio
 statue of Napoleon 101
 Canterbury, day trips to 380
 Caravaggio 111
 Cardinal's Wharf **181**, 279
 Caribbean restaurants 295
 Carlyle, Thomas 42, 197
 Carlyle's House 198, **200**
 London Library 95
 statue of 273
 Carlyle's House **200**
 Street-by-Street map 198
 Carnaby Street **113**
 Carnival, Notting Hill 223
 Caro, Anthony 173
 Caroline, Queen 213, 277
 Carracci, Annibale 111
 Carrington, Dora 132
 Cars **375**
 Carter, Gilbert 200
 Cash machines 364–5
 Casinos 348
 Casson, Sir Hugh 85, 209
 Cathedrals
 St Paul's Cathedral 12, 13, 26, 49,
 51, 67, 146, 148, **152–5**
 Southwark Cathedral 49, 50, 68,
 179, **180**, 279
 Westminster Cathedral 48, 51,
 85
 see also Churches
 Catherine of Aragon 78, 263
 Cavendish, Lord 94
 Caxton, William 23, 143
 CD and record shops **326**, 327
 Cecil Court 112
 Street-by-Street map 105
 Cemeteries **55**
 Brompton Cemetery 55
 Bunhill Fields 55, **172**
 Highgate Cemetery 55, **237**
 Kensal Green Cemetery 55
 St Pancras Old Church and
 Graveyard **134**
 Cenotaph **78–9**
 London's Best: Ceremonies 57,
 58
 Street-by-Street map 75
 Central Hall
 Street-by-Street map 74
 Ceremonies **56–9**
 Ceremony of the Keys 58, 59
 Cézanne, Paul 121
 Chain bars **314**
 Chain hotels **286**, 287
 Chamberlain, Neville 79
 Chambers, Sir William
 Osterley Park House 259
 Pagoda (Kew Gardens) 266
 Somerset House 121
 Champagne, Philippe de 111
 Champollion, Jean-François 130
 Changing the Guard 58, 59, 90, 98
 Chapel-Leysian Mission **172–3**
 Chapel Market **336**
 Chaplin, Charlie 43
 statue of 107
 Chardin, Jean Baptiste Siméon
 111
 Charing Cross **123**
 Charing Cross Hospital 32
 Charing Cross Road **112**, 319
 Street-by-Street map 104
 Charing Cross station 35, 66
 Charles, Prince of Wales
 Clarence House 92
 Crown Jewels 160
 National Gallery 111
 wedding in St Paul's 35, 153,
 154
 Charles I, King 39
 Banqueting House 84
 Charles I Commemoration 63
 Civil War 26
 Crown Jewels 160
 execution 26, 84
 Hampton Court 263
 Houses of Parliament 77
 portrait of 111
 Raphael cartoons 217
 Richmond Park 258
 Tower of London 161
 Charles II, King 27, 39
 Banqueting House 84
 Crown Jewels 160
 Green Park 97
 Lamb and Flag 119
 The Mall 97
 Monument 156
 and Nell Gwynne 43
 Oak Apple Day 56, 59
 Restoration 26, 27, 161
 Royal Hospital Chelsea 201
 Royal Observatory Greenwich
 246
 St James's Park 96
 statue of 112, 272
 Charles Dickens Museum **132**
 Charlotte, Princess 37
 Charlotte, Queen 97
 Charlotte Street **135**
 Charlton House **256**
 Charterhouse **168**
 Street-by-Street map 167
 Chaucer, Geoffrey 23, 43
 Chelsea **197–201**
 area map 197
 bed & breakfast 291
 Chelsea and Battersea walk
 272–3
 hotels 288–91
 restaurants 299–301
 Street-by-Street map 198–9
 A Three-hour walk in Chelsea
 and Battersea **272–3**
 Chelsea Arts Club 197
 Chelsea Bridge 272
 Chelsea Flower Show 60, 196
 Chelsea Harbour **265**
 Chelsea Old Church 50, **200**, **273**
 Street-by-Street map 198
 Chelsea Old Town Hall
 Street-by-Street map 199
 Chelsea Pensioners 201
 Chelsea Physic Garden 54, **201**
 Street-by-Street map 199
 Chevalier, Maurice 113
 Cheyne, Lady Jane 200
 Cheyne Walk **200**, 273
 Street-by-Street map 199
 Children **352–5**, 360
 clothes **322**, 324
 the great outdoors **355**
 in hotels 286
 and the law 352
 in museums and galleries
 354
 in restaurants 293, **353**
 shopping **354**
 sports **355**
 at Tate Britain 89
 theatre **354–5**
 V&A Museum of Childhood **252**
 Chinatown 102, **112**
 Great days in London 11, 12, 13
 Street-by-Street map 104
 Chinese New Year 63
 Ching Court
 Street-by-Street map 116
 Chiswick House 54, **264–5**
The Chalmers 88
 Christ Church, Spitalfields 51, **174**
 Christ Church tower 167
 Christmas 62, 63
 Church Row **237**
 Street-by-Street map 235
 Church Street Market **336**
 Churches (general)
 London's Best: **48–51**
 spires **50**
 Churches (individual)
 All Hallows by the Tower **157**
 All Saints' Church (Isleworth)
 274
 All Saints' Church (Talbot Road)
 281
 All Souls, Langham Place 48, 51,
 229
 Brompton Oratory 48, 51, 205,
 208
 Chelsea Old Church 50, 198,
 200, **273**
 Christ Church, Spitalfields 51,
 174
 Christ Church tower 167
 Church of the Immaculate
 Conception 276
 Holy Trinity 205
 Notre Dame 104
 Queen's Chapel **97**
 St Alfege Church 51, 242,
 244–5
 St Andrew, Holborn **144**
 St Anne's, Limehouse 51, **253**
 St Anne's Church Tower 113
 St Bartholomew-the-Great 50,
 167, **169**
 St Bartholomew-the-Less 166
 St Botolph, Aldersgate **169**
 St Bride's 50, 51, **143**
 St Clement Danes 51, 139, **142**
 St Etheldreda's Chapel **145**

Churches (individual) (cont.)

St George's, Bloomsbury 50, 51, 127, **132**
 St Giles, Cripplegate **169**
 St Helen's, Bishopsgate **162**
 St James's 51, 93, **94**
 St James's, Garlickhythe 51, 148
 St John's Smith Square **85**
 St Katharine Cree **162**
 St Leonard's Church **175**
 St Luke's Church 273
 St Magnus the Martyr 51, **156**
 St Margaret's 74, **78**
 St Martin-in-the-Fields 48, 50, 51, 105, **106, 345**
 St Mary Abchurch 149
 St Mary Aldermay 148
 St Mary, Battersea **257**
 St Mary, Rotherhithe **252**
 St Mary-le-Bow 50, 51, 148, **151**
 St Mary-le-Strand 49, 51, **122**
 St Mary Woolnoth 49, 51, 149
 St Marylebone Parish Church 226, **228–9**
 St Nicholas Cole Abbey 148
 St Pancras Old Church and Graveyard **134**
 St Pancras Parish Church 51, **134**
 St Paul's Church 48, 50, 117, **118**
 St Stephen Walbrook 49, 51, 149, **150**
 Savoy Chapel **120**
 Temple Church 49, 50, 143
 Wesley's Chapel-Leysian Mission **172–3**
see also Cathedrals
 Churchill, Clementine 78
 Churchill, Sir Winston 33, 43
 Churchill War Rooms 74, **79**
 funeral 154
 St Margaret's 78
 statues of 74, 78, 163
 Churchill War Rooms **79**
 Street-by-Street map 74
 Cinemas **343**
 BFI Southbank 190, 278, **343**
 Electric Cinema 280
 Everyman Cinema 235
 film certificates 343
 foreign-language films 343
 Cipriani, Giovanni 100
 The City **147–63**
 hotels 288–91
 London's Best: Ceremonies 57, **59**
 maps 19, 147, 148–9
 pubs and bars 314–15
 restaurants 302–4
 St Paul's Cathedral **152–5**
 Tower of London **158–61**
 City Hall 11, 69, **187**
 City of London Festival 61
 Civil War 26
 Clarence House
 Street-by-Street map 92
 Claude Lorrain 111, 257
 Claudius, Emperor 20
 Cleopatra's Needle 66, **122**

Clerkenwell
 pubs and bars 314–15
 Climate 358
 Clink Prison Museum **186**, 279
 Street-by-Street map 179
 Clinton, Bill 280
 Clinton, Hillary 280
 Clive, Lord 276
 Cloth Fair **168**
 Street-by-Street map 167
 Clothes
 chain stores **321–2**, 323–4
 children's clothes **322**, 324
 knitwear **322**, 324
 modern British design **321**, 323
 in restaurants 293
 shopping **320–24**
 size chart 320
 social customs and etiquette 359
 traditional clothing **320–21**, 323
 underwear and lingerie **322**, 324
 vintage fashion **322**, 324
 Clubs **348**, 349
 Pall Mall 96
 The Coach and Horses 113
 Coach travel **369**
 Cocteau, Jean 104, 217
 Coffee **308**, 310
 Coins 365
 Coleridge, Sir John Taylor 139
 Coleridge, Samuel Taylor 239
 Collcutt, T E 230
 Collectables shops **333**, 334
 College of Arms
 Street-by-Street map 148
 Columbia Road market 164, **175**, 319, **336**
 Commonwealth 26, 39
 Communications **366–7**
 Constable, John
 Charlotte Street 135
 grave 237
The Hay Wain 109
 National Gallery 111
 Well Walk 235, 236
 Consulates 361
 Conversion chart 360
 Cook, Captain James 29, 244
 Copley, John Singleton 163
 Coram, Captain Thomas 133
 Coronation Day gun salutes 61
 Coronations 83, **160**
 Corot, Jean Baptiste Camille 111
 County Hall 66
 Great days in London 11, 12
 South Bank walk 278
 Street-by-Street map 191
 Courtauld, Samuel 121
 Courtauld, Stephen 256
 Courtauld Gallery **121**
 London's Best: Museums and Galleries 45, 47
 Covent Garden and the Strand **115–23**
 area map 115
 Covent Garden: Street-by-Street map 116–17
 Great days in London 11, 12, 13

Covent Garden and the Strand (cont.)
 pubs and bars 314
 shops 319
 Covent Garden May Fayre and Puppet Festival 60
 Credit cards 364
 in shops 316
 Crewe House 276
 Cricket 61, **350**
 Lord's Cricket Ground **250**
 Crime 362
 Cromwell, Oliver 26, 39
 Apothecaries' Hall 156
 Banqueting House 84
 death mask 170
 Hampton Court 263
 Lincoln's Inn 140–41
 St Giles, Cripplegate 169
 Croom's Hill **247**
 Crosby Hall 273
 Crown Jewels 158, 159, **160**
 Cruickshank, George 246
 Cruises, river 65
 Crystal Palace 31
 Cumberbatch, Benedict 43
 Cumberland, Duke of 28
 Cumberland Terrace 29, **231**
 Currency 365
 Currency exchange 364
 Custom House 68
 Customs information 358
Cutty Sark **245**
 Street-by-Street map 242
 Cycling **375**

D

Dali, Salvador 184
 Dance **346**
 Dance, George the Elder 150
 Dance, George the Younger 264
 Darwin, Charles 200
 Daubigny, Charles François 111
 Davison, Emily 132
 Day Lewis, Daniel 247
 Day trips 380
 De Kooning, Willem 184
 De Morgan, William 253
 Dean's Yard **78**
 Street-by-Street map 74
 Debit cards 364
 in shops 316
 Defoe, Daniel 172
 Degas, Edgar 121
 Delis **309**, 310
 Dench, Judi 120
 Dennis Severs' House **175**
 Dentists 363
 Department stores 317
 Depression (1930s) 32, 33
 Derain, André 184
 Des Granges, David
The Saltonstall Family 87
 Design Museum **222**
 London's Best: Museums and Galleries 46
 Devonshire House 276
 Dialling codes 366

Diana, Princess of Wales 95
 death 36, 212
 Diana, Princess of Wales Memorial Playground **223**
 Kensington Gardens 212
 Princess Diana Memorial fountain 213
 wedding 35, 153, 154
 Dickens, Charles 42
 Carlyle's House 200
 Charles Dickens Museum **132**
 George Inn 180
 Gray's Inn 145
 Old Curiosity Shop 142
 Ye Olde Cheshire Cheese 144
 St Luke's Church 273
 Trafalgar Tavern 246
 Westminster Abbey 83
 Diners **309**, 310–11
 Disabled travellers **359**, 361
 entertainment 339
 in hotels **285**, 287
 Discount rates
 hotels 284
 Disraeli, Benjamin 144
 statue of 74
 Docklands Light Railway 35
 Docks 28
 Museum of London Docklands **253**
 St Katharine Docks 11, 12, 13, 69, **162**
 Dr Johnson's House **144**
 Doctors 362–3
Doge Leonardo Loredan (Bellini) 108
 Doggett's Coat and Badge (pub) 367
 Doggett's Coat and Badge Race 59, 61
 Doll, Charles 132
 The Dome *see* 02 Arena
 Domesday Book 22
 Donatello 217
 Donne, John 43, 140–41, 154
 Dover House
 Street-by-Street map 75
 Downey, Juan 185
 Downing, Sir George 79
 Downing Street 10, **79**
 Street-by-Street map 75
 Downshire Hill **237**
 Doyle, Sir Arthur Conan 42
 Sherlock Holmes Museum 230
 Drake, Sir Francis 25, 279
 Drayson Mews
 Street-by-Street map 221
 Drinks
 beer **312**
 shopping **325**, 327
see also Food and drink
 Dryden, John 78, 119
 Duccio 110
 Duke of Edinburgh's Birthday gun salutes 61
 Dulwich Picture Gallery 47, **256–7**
 Dunstan, St 82
 Durham, Joseph
 statue of Prince Albert 209
 Dvořák, Antonín 229

Dynamic Suprematism (Malevich) 184
 Dysart, Countess of 258
E
 Earlham Street Market **336**
 East End
 art and antiques shops **332–3**, 334
 light meals and snacks **310**, 311
 Easter 60
 Edinburgh, Duke of 99
 Edward I, King 38
 Charing Cross 123
 Tower of London 159
 Edward II, King 38
 Edward III, King 38, 78
 Edward IV, King 38, 161
 Edward V, King 38
 Edward VI, King 24, 38
 Edward VII, King 31, 32, 39
 Crown Jewels 160
 Marlborough House 97
 Edward VIII, King 33, 39
 Edward the Confessor, King
 coronation 160
 Houses of Parliament 77
 Westminster Abbey 22, 80, 81, 83
 Egg, Augustus 88
 Eisenhower, General 95, 101
 Ejiofor, Chiwetel 43
 Eleanor of Castile 123
 Electric Cinema 280
 Electricity 360
 Elgin, Lord 128, 131
 Eliasson, Olafur 185
 Eliot, George 200
 grave 237
 Eliot, T S 132, 200
 Elizabeth, The Queen Mother 160
 Elizabeth I, Queen 24, 39, 246
 portraits of 25, 107
 Richmond 274
 Royal Exchange 151
 St James's Palace 95
 tomb 83
 Elizabeth II, Queen 39
 Albert Memorial 209
 Big Ben 78
 Buckingham Palace 99
 coronation 81, 83, 160
 Crown Jewels 160
 Diamond Jubilee 37, 254
 Golden Jubilee 36
 London's Best: Ceremonies 56–9
 Madame Tussaud's 228
 Queen's Birthday gun salutes 60
 St James's Palace 95
 Silver Jubilee 35, 191
 Elizabethan London **24–5**
 Eltham Palace **256**
 Email 367
 Embankment
 London's Best: Ceremonies 57
 Embankment Galleries 121
 Embankment Gardens 66
 Embassies 361

Emergencies 362
 Emin, Tracey 43, 89
 Emirates Air Line Cable Car **253**
 Engels, Friedrich 271
 Engineers **42**
 England
 map 14–15
 English National Opera 123
 Entertainment **338–51**
 cinemas **343**
 clubs, **348–9**
 dance **346**
 disabled travellers 339
 information sources 338–9
 opera, classical and contemporary music **344–5**
 in pubs **313**
 rock, pop, jazz and world music **347**, 349
 sport **350–51**
 theatres **340–42**
 tickets 339
 Epstein, Sir Jacob 42
 Kensington Gardens 212
 Roper's Garden 198, 200, 273
 St James's Park Station 85
 Tate Britain 88
 Eros (Gilbert) 94
 Ethelbert, King 21
 Etiquette 359
 Europe
 map 14
 Events **60–63**
 Everyman Cinema
 Street-by-Street map 235
 Eyck, Jan van 110
F
 FA Cup Final 60
 Faber, Father Frederick William 208
 Fabro, Luciano 185
 Falklands War (1982) 35
 Fan Museum **247**
 Faraday, Michael 101
 Faraday Museum 47, **101**
 Farrell, Terry
 Charing Cross 35, 123
 Ching Court 116
 Fashion and Textile Museum 46, 187
 Fawkes, Guy 26, 77, 192, 238
 Fenton House 54, **236–7**
 Street-by-Street map 234
 Ferries, cross-Channel **369**
 Festival of Britain (1951) 34, 189, 190, 192
 Festivals **60–63**
 dance **346**
 music festivals **344**
 Film *see* Cinema
 Fire services 363
 Fischli, Peter 185
Fish (Brâncuși) 183, 185
 Fish and chips **309–10**, 311
 Fishmongers' Hall 68, **156**
 Fitzalwin, Henry 22
 Fitzrovia *see* Bloomsbury and Fitzrovia

Fitzroy Square **135**
 Flamsteed, John 246
 Flask Walk **236**
 Street-by-Street map 235
 Flats, self-catering **286, 287**
 Flaxman, John 119
 Fleet Street **143**
 Street-by-Street map 139
 Fleming, Ian 200
 Florence Nightingale Museum
 47, **194**
 Flower gardens **54**
 Foley, John 209
 Food and drink
 The Flavours of London **294–5**
 light meals and snacks **308–11**
 shopping **325, 327**
 see also Restaurants
 Football **350**
 Forster, E M 43, 132
 Fortnum & Mason 10
 Street-by-Street map 92
 Foster, Norman 42
 British Museum 128, 131
 Canary Wharf station 376
 City Hall 187
 Royal Academy of Arts 94
 Foundling Museum **133**
 Fournier Street **174**
 Fourth Plinth
 Street-by-Street map 105
 Fowke, Francis 209
 Fowler, Charles 118
 Fox, Charles James
 statue of 127
 Fox and Anchor
 Street-by-Street map 166
 Frampton, Sir George 212
 Franklin, Benjamin 169
 Frederick, Prince 244
 The French House 113
 Freud, Anna 250
 Freud, Lucian 43, 88
 Freud, Sigmund 42
 Freud Museum **250**
 Freud Museum **250**
 London's Best: Museums and
 Galleries 46
 Fringe theatre **342**
From the Freud Museum (Hiller)
 184
 Fry, Roger 43, 135
 Fulham Palace **265**

G

Gabriel's Wharf 13, 67, **195, 279**
 Gabriel's Wharf Market **336**
 Gainsborough, Thomas 42
 Dulwich Picture Gallery 257
 National Gallery 111
 Tate Britain 88
 Wallace Collection 230
 Galleries see Museums and
 galleries
 Galsworthy, John 234
 Gandhi, Mahatma 131
 Gardens see Parks and gardens
 Garnet, Henry 163
 Garrick, David 239

Garrick Club
 Street-by-Street map 116
 Gastropubs 292, **313**
 Gatwick Airport **372**
 Gauguin, Paul 121
 de Gaulle, General Charles 95,
 113
 Gay and lesbian travellers **360, 361**
 bars **315**
 clubs 348
 Geffrye, Sir Robert 252
 Geffrye Museum **252**
 London's Best: Museums and
 Galleries 46
 Gentile da Fabriano 110
 George, St 23
 George I, King 28, 39
 Kensington Palace 212
 St George's, Bloomsbury 132
 George II, King 28, 39
 Downing Street 79
 Foundling Museum 133
 Hampton Court 261
 statue of 243
 George III, King 28, 29, 39
 British Museum 129
 Queen's Chapel 97
 George IV, King (Prince Regent)
 29, 39, 231
 Buckingham Palace 98
 Regent's Park 228
 Royal Mews 100
 statue of 106
 George V, King 32, 39, 132
 George VI, King 39, 160
 portrait of 33
 George Alexander Louis, Prince 37
 George Inn **180**
 Street-by-Street map 179
 Georgian London **28–9**
 Géricault, Théodore 111
 Gertler, Mark 237
 "The Gherkin" (30 St Mary Axe) 36,
 163
 Ghosts, in theatres 342
 Giambologna 217
 Gibberd, Sir Frederick 230
 Gibbons, Grinling
 All Hallows by the Tower 157
 Queen's Chapel 97
 Royal Hospital Chelsea 201
 St Alfege Church 245
 St James's Church 94
 St Mary Abchurch 149
 St Paul's Cathedral 154
 St Paul's Church 118
 statue of Charles II 272
 Tower of London 161
 Gibbons, Dr William 236
 Gibbs, James 42
 churches **51**
 Orleans House Gallery 258
 St Martin-in-the-Fields 50, 51,
 105, 106
 St Mary-le-Strand 49, 51, 122
 Gielud, Sir John 43, 120
 Gift shops **328, 330**
 Gilbert, Alfred
 Eros 94

Gilbert & George 43, 88
 Gill, Eric
 Broadcasting House 229
 St James's Park Station 85
 Westminster Cathedral 51, 85
 Gladstone, William
 Gladstone Statue 138
 Harley Street 229
 Glebe Place 273
 Globe Theatre see Shakespeare's
 Globe
 Golborne Road Flea Market 281
 Golden Boy of Pye Corner
 Street-by-Street map 166
Golden Hinde II 11, 179, 279
 Goldfinger, Ernő 216
 Goldsmith, Oliver 251
 Golf **350**
 Good Friday 60
 Goodwin's Court
 Street-by-Street map 116
 Goya y Lucientes, Francisco de
 101
 Grahame, Kenneth 221
 Granary Square **134**
 Grant, Duncan 43, 132, 236
 Grant Museum of Zoology 47,
 135
 Grays Antique Markets **336**
 Gray's Inn 54, **145**
 The Great Bed of Ware 216
 Great Cumberland Place 28
 Great Exhibition (1851) 30–31
 Great Fire (1666) 19, **26–7**
 Golden Boy of Pye Corner 166
 Monument 12, **156**
 Great Plague (1665) 26, 27, 172
 Great Stink (1858) 30
 Greater London
 map 15
 Greater London Council 35
 Green Park **97**
 London's Best: Parks and
 Gardens 53, 54
 Green travel **375**
 Greenwich and Blackheath 11,
 241–7
 area map 241
 Greenwich: Street-by-Street
 map 242–3
 Greenwich Foot Tunnel **245**
 Street-by-Street map 242
 Greenwich Market **336**
 Street-by-Street map 242
 Greenwich Park 240, **247**
 London's Best: Parks and
 Gardens 53, 55
 Greenwich Pier
 Street-by-Street map 242
 Greifenhagen, Maurice
 A London Street Scene 32–3
 Gresham, Sir Thomas 151
 tomb 162
 Grey, Lady Jane 159
 Greyhound racing **350**
 Gribble, Henry 208
 Grimaldi, Joseph 59
 Grosvenor Square 28, 54–5, **101**
 Grove, George 208

Grove Lodge
 Street-by-Street map 234
 Guards Museum 46, **85**
 Guildhall **163**
 Silent Change 59
 Guinness, Sir Alec 120
 Gunpowder Plot (1605) 26, 163, 238
 Guy Fawkes Night 62
 Gwynne, Nell 43, 119
 tomb 106

H

Hadid, Zaha 212, 253
 Haig, Earl
 statue of 75
 Halkin Arcade 277
 Hall, Sir Benjamin 78
 Halley, Edmond 246
 Hals, Frans 150, 238
 Laughing Cavalier 44, 230
 Ham House 27, 54, **258**
 Hamilton, Richard 88
 Hampstead Heath **238**
 London's Best: Parks and Gardens 52, 55
 Street-by-Street map 234
 Hampstead and Highgate **233–9**
 area map 233
 Hampstead: Street-by-Street map 234–5
 pubs and bars 315
 Hampton Court 25, 54, **260–63**
 floorplan 262–3
 park **260–61**
 timeline 263
 Visitors' checklist 261
 Hampton Court Flower Show 61
 Handel, George Frideric 42
 Fenton House 236
 Foundling Museum 133
 Handel & Hendrix in London **101, 345**
 Royal Opera House 119
 St Katharine Cree 162
 Handel & Hendrix in London **101, 345**
 Hanover Square 28
 Hardiman, Alfred
 statue of Earl Haig 75
 Hardwick, Thomas 228–9
 Hardy, Thomas 134
 Harley Street **229**
 Street-by-Street map 227
 Harrison, John 246
 Harrod, Henry Charles 213
 Harrods **213**
 Harvard, John 180
 Hatfield House 380
 Hat shops **328, 330**
 Hatton, Sir Christopher 145
 Hatton Garden **145**
 Hawksmoor, Nicholas 42
 Christ Church, Spitalfields 51, 174
 churches **50–51**
 St Alfege Church 51, 244
 St Anne's, Limehouse 253
 St George's, Bloomsbury 50, 51, 127, 132

Hawksmoor, Nicholas (cont.)
 St Mary Woolnoth 49, 51, 149
 Westminster Abbey 80
The Hay Wain (Constable) 109
 Hay's Galleria 68
 Hayward Gallery 12, 47, **192**
 South Bank walk 278
 Street-by-Street map 190
 Head of the River Race 60
 Health **362–3**
 Heathrow Airport **370–71**
 Hendrix, Jimi 101
 Henrietta Maria, Queen
 Queen's Chapel, St James's 50, 97
 Queen's House 244
 Henry I, King 38
 Henry II, King 38
 Henry III, King 38, 82, 159
 Henry IV, King 38
 Henry VI, King 38
 name-day ceremony 59
 Henry VII, King 38
 Richmond 259, 274
 Savoy Chapel 120
 Westminster Abbey 82
 Henry VIII, King 24, 38, 246
 Charterhouse 168
 Chelsea 197
 Green Park 97
 Greenwich 242
 Hampton Court 260–63
 Horse Guards Parade 84
 Hyde Park 213
 Lincoln's Inn 140
 National Portrait Gallery 107
 Richmond Park 258
 St Alfege Church 245
 St Bartholomew-the-Great 169
 St James's Palace 92, 95
 St James's Park 96
 St Margaret's 78
 Tower of London 161
 Victoria and Albert Museum 214
 Henry of Reyns 81
 Henry Frederick, Prince of Wales 256
 Henry Wood Promenade
 Concerts 61, 62
 Henson, Jim 237
 Hepworth, Barbara 88, 89
 Hertford family 230
 Hervey, Lord 265
 Herzog and de Meuron 184
 Hess, Rudolf 159
 Hiddleston, Tom 43
 Highgate *see* Hampstead and Highgate
 Highgate Cemetery 55, **237**
 Hill, Rowland 30
 The Hill Garden 54, **239**
 Hiller, Susan
 From the Freud Museum 184
 Hinduism
 BAPS Shri Swaminarayan Mandir **250–51**
 Hippodrome
 Street-by-Street map 105
 Hirst, Damien 43, 89, 201
 History **19–39**

HMS *Belfast* 12, 13, 69, **187**
 Hockney, David 175
 Royal College of Art 204, 209
 Tate Britain 88
 Whitechapel Gallery 173
 Hodgkin, Howard 89
 Hogarth, William 42, 168
 Foundling Museum 133
 Hogarth's House **265**
 Leicester Square 107
 Marble Hill House 258
 National Gallery 111
 Portrait of Captain Coram 133
 St Bartholomew-the-Great 169
 Sir John Soane's Museum 140
 tomb 106
 Hogarth's House **265**
 Holbein, Hans 107
 The Ambassadors 109, 110
 Henry VIII 263
 Holborn and the Inns of Court **137–45**
 area map 137
 Lincoln's Inn: Street-by-Street map 138–9
 pubs and bars 314
 Holborn Viaduct **144**
 Holden, Charles 85, 142
 Holidays, public 63
 Holland House **222**
 Street-by-Street map 220
 Holland Park **222**
 London's Best: Parks and Gardens 52, 54
 Street-by-Street map 220
 see also Kensington and Holland Park
 Holmes, Sherlock 42
 Sherlock Holmes Museum **230**
 Holy Trinity
 Street-by-Street map 205
 Hopkins, Matthew 376
 Horniman, Frederick 256
 Horniman Museum 47, **256**
 Horse Guards Parade 12, **84**
 London's Best: Ceremonies 56, 58
 Street-by-Street map 75
 Horses
 horse racing **350**
 riding **350**
 Royal Mews 100
 Hospitals 362–3
 Hostels 287
 Hotels **284–91**
 airport hotels **373**
 bars **315**
 boutique hotels 289–90
 budget accommodation 286–7, 291
 chain hotels **286, 287**
 character hotels 290–91
 children in 286
 disabled travellers **285, 287**
 discount rates 284
 facilities 285
 hidden extras 284–5
 how to book 285

Hotels (cont.)

- Langham Hotel **229**
- luxury hotels 288–9
- Ritz Hotel 92
- Savoy Hotel **120**
- special breaks 285
- Houdon, Jean Antoine 230
- Household Cavalry Museum 46, **84**
- Houses, historic **42**
 - Admiral's House 234
 - Apsley House 42, **100–101**
 - Banqueting House 10, 66, **84**
 - Burgh House 235, **236**
 - Carlyle's House 198, **200**
 - Charlton House **256**
 - Chiswick House 54, **264–5**
 - Clarence House 92
 - Crewe House 276
 - Dennis Severs' House **175**
 - Dr Johnson's House **144**
 - Dover House 75
 - Eltham Palace **256**
 - Fenton House 54, 234, **236–7**
 - Grove Lodge 234
 - Ham House 27, 54, **258**
 - Handel & Hendrix in London **345**
 - Hogarth's House **265**
 - Holland House 220, **222**
 - Keats House **237**
 - Kenwood House 47, 232, **238–9**
 - Leighton House **222**
 - Mansion House 149, **150**
 - Marble Hill House **258–9**
 - Marlborough House **97**
 - Osterley Park House **259**
 - Pitzhanger Manor House **264**
 - Queen's House 243, **244**
 - Richmond House 75
 - Somerset House 66, **121**
 - Spencer House 92, **95**
 - 18 Stafford Terrace **222**
 - Sutton House **252**
 - Syon House 55, **259**, 275
 - see also Museums and galleries
- Houses of Parliament 17, **76–7**
 - Big Ben 72, **78**
 - Great days in London 10, 12, 13
 - Jewel Tower 74, **78**
 - London Eye 193
 - London's Best: Ceremonies 57, 58
 - South Bank walk 278
 - Street-by-Street map 75
- Howard, Henrietta 258
- Hoyland, John 173
- Huguenots 174
- Hungerford Bridge 278
- Street-by-Street map 190
- Hunt, Leigh 197
- Hunt, William Holman 88
- Hunter, John 141
- Hunterian Museum **141**
- Street-by-Street map 138
- Hyde Park 30, **213**
- London's Best: Ceremonies 56
- London's Best: Parks and Gardens 52, 54
- Mayfair and Belgravia walk 277
- Royal Salutes 58, 59

I

- Ice-skating **350**
- Imperial College
 - Street-by-Street map 205
- Imperial War Museum 13, **194–5**
- London's Best: Museums and Galleries 45, 47
- Indian restaurants 295
- Ingres, Jean Auguste Dominique 111
- Inns of Court
 - A River View of London 67
 - see also Holborn and the Inns of Court
- Institute of Contemporary Arts **96**
- Insurance 363
- Interiors shops **330–31**
- International Mime Festival 63
- Internet 367
- Inwood, Henry 134
- Inwood, William 134
- Irving, Henry 43
- Irving, Washington 251
- Islam
 - Brick Lane Jamme Masjid 174
 - London Central Mosque **230**
- Isleworth 274
- Islington **251**
- Italian restaurants 295

J

- Jack the Ripper 192, 228
- Jacob III de Gheyn* (Rembrandt) 256, 257
- James I, King 25, 26, 39
- Banqueting House 84
- Blackheath 247
- Charlton House 256
- Hyde Park 213
- James II, King 27, 39, 216
- James, Henry 200
- James, John 51
- Jazz **347**, 349
- Jermyn Street
 - Street-by-Street map 93
- Jewel Tower **78**
 - Street-by-Street map 74
- Jewellery shops **328**, 330
- Jews
 - Jewish Museum **251**
 - 19 Princelet Street 174
- John, King 22, 38
- John, Augustus 42
- Johnson, Boris 36
- Johnson, James 258
- Johnson, Dr Samuel 42, 59, 117
- The Anchor 186
- Dr Johnson's House **144**
- statue of 142
- Ye Olde Cheshire Cheese 144
- Jones, Adrian 100
- Jones, Christopher 252
- Jones, Gwen 88
- Jones, Sir Horace 162, 168
- Jones, Inigo 42
- Banqueting House 27, 66, 75, 84
- Charlton House 256
- Chiswick House 265
- Jones, Inigo (cont.)
 - churches **50**
 - Piazza and Central Market 118
 - Queen's Chapel 50, 97
 - Queen's House 242, 243, 244, 245
 - St Paul's Church 50, 117, 118
- Jonson, Ben 78, 140, 143
- Jubilee Gardens
 - South Bank walk 278
 - Street-by-Street map 191
- Jubilee Line 35
- Jubilee Market **336**
 - Street-by-Street map 117
- Justice Walk 273

K

- Kandinsky, Wassily 185
- Kapoor, Anish 253
- Kauffer, E McKnight 118
- Kean, Edmund 43, 274
- Keats, John 42, 233
- Apothecaries' Hall 156
- Keats House **237**
- St John's, Hampstead 237
- Spaniards Inn 239
- Well Walk 236
- Keats House **237**
- Kensal Green Cemetery 55
- Kensington and Holland Park **219–23**
 - area map 219
 - bed & breakfast 291
 - hotels 288–91
 - restaurants 299–301
 - Street-by-Street map 220–21
- Kensington Church Street 318
- Street-by-Street map 221
- Kensington Civic Centre
 - Street-by-Street map 221
- Kensington Gardens 13, **212–13**
 - The Diana, Princess of Wales Memorial Playground **223**
 - London's Best: Parks and Gardens 52, 54
- Kensington Palace 54, **212**
 - London's Best: Museums and Galleries 46
- Kensington Palace Gardens **223**
- Kensington Roof Gardens **223**
- Kensington Square **223**
- Kent, William 276
 - Chiswick House 265
 - Hampton Court 263
 - Horse Guards Parade 84
 - Kensington Gardens 212
 - Kensington Palace 212
- Kenwood House 47, 232, **238–9**
- Kew
 - Richmond and Kew walk **274–5**
- Kew Gardens 28, **266–7**
 - London's Best: Parks and Gardens 52, 54, 55
 - Richmond and Kew walk 275
- Kew Palace 275
- Keynes, John Maynard 43
- King Street
 - Street-by-Street map 93

Kings and Queens **38–9**

- Crown Jewels 158, 159, **160**
- King's Road **200**
- Chelsea and Battersea walk 273
- shopping 318
- Street-by-Street map 198
- Kipling, Rudyard 236
- Knights of St John 168
- Knights Templar 143
- Temple 139
- Temple Church 49, 50
- Knightsbridge
- art and antiques shops **332**, 334
- Mayfair and Belgravia walk 277
- pubs and bars 315
- shopping 318
- see also South Kensington and Knightsbridge
- Knitwear **322**, 324

LLamb and Flag **119**

- Street-by-Street map 116
- Lambeth Palace **194**
- Landseer, Edwin 106
- Lane, Danny 217
- Langham Hotel **229**
- Lansdowne House 276
- Lasdun, Sir Denys 192
- Last Night of the Proms 62
- Latimer, Bishop 24
- Lauderdale, Duke of 258
- Laughing Cavalier* (Hals) 44, 230
- Law, Jude 43, 120
- Law Courts see Royal Courts of Justice
- Law Society **142**
- Street-by-Street map 139
- Lawrence, D H 236, 239
- Lawrence, T E 154
- Lawrence, Sir Thomas 88, 200
- Laws, children and 352
- Le Nôtre, André 247
- Leadenhall Market **162**, **337**
- Leather goods shops **329**, 330
- Leather Lane Market **337**
- Leicester Square 12, 13, **107**
- Street-by-Street map 104
- Leigh, James Henry 239
- Leigh, Vivien 45
- Leighton, Lord **220**, **222**
- Leighton House **222**
- Street-by-Street map 220
- Leonardo da Vinci
- Burlington House Cartoon 108
- National Gallery 110
- The Queen's Gallery 100
- Victoria and Albert Museum 217
- Leverhulme, Lord 239
- Liberty **113**
- Liberty, Arthur Lasenby 113
- Libraries
- British Library **133**
- Light meals and snacks **308–11**
- Ligonier, Viscount 97
- Lincoln, Abraham
- statue of 78

Lincoln's Inn **140–41**

- Street-by-Street map 138–9
- Lincoln's Inn Fields 54, **141**
- Street-by-Street map 138
- Lingerie shops **322**, 324
- Lippi, Fra Filippo 245
- The Annunciation* 110
- Little Venice
- Regent's Canal walk 270
- Live Aid 35
- Livery companies
- Apothecaries' Hall **156**
- Fishmongers' Hall **156**
- London's Best: Ceremonies 59
- Livingstone, David
- statue of 205
- Livingstone, Ken 36
- Lloyd's of London 27, 34, **162–3**
- Lombard Street
- Street-by-Street map 149
- London Bridge 18, 22–3, 26
- new London Bridge 35
- Street-by-Street map 179
- London Bridge station 30
- London to Brighton veteran car rally 62
- London Central Mosque **230**
- London City Airport **371**
- London Coliseum **123**, **344**
- London County Council (LCC) 31
- London Dungeon **192**
- London Eye 36, 188, **193**
- Great days in London 11, 12, 13
- A River View of London 66
- South Bank walk 278
- Street-by-Street map 190
- London Film Festival **343**
- London International Horse
- Show 63
- London Marathon 60
- London Museum of Water & Steam 47, **264**
- London Silver Vaults **145**
- A London Street Scene* (Greifenhagen) 32–3
- London Transport Museum 13, 47, **118–19**
- Street-by-Street map 117
- London Wall 21
- London Zoo 55, **231**
- Regent's Canal walk 270–71
- Long, Richard 88
- Longhi, Pietro 111
- Lord, Thomas 250
- Lord Mayor
- coach 171
- Lord Mayor's Show 57, 59, 62
- Mansion House **150**
- Lord's Cricket Ground **250**
- Lost property 362, 363
- Lovat, Lord 161
- Lowry, L S 89
- Lucas, Sarah
- Self-Portrait with Knickers* 89
- Lunches **309**, 310
- Luton Airport **373**
- Lutyens, Sir Edwin
- Cenotaph 75, 78–9

M

- McBean, Angus 45
- McEwan, Ian 43
- McQueen, Steve 89
- Madame Tussaud's **228**
- Street-by-Street map 226
- Madonna and Child* (Michelangelo) 94
- Magazines 367
- shopping **326**, 327
- Magna Carta 22
- Magritte, René 184
- Mahler, Gustav 119
- Mail services 367
- Maison Bertaux 113
- Makerius, Sameer 185
- Malevich, Kazimir
- Dynamic Suprematism* 184
- The Mall 13, **97**
- Manchester Square 28, 29
- Mandela, Nelson
- statue of 74
- The Struggle is My Life* 191
- Manet, Edouard 121
- A Bar at the Folies-Bergère* 45
- Mansfield, Earl of 238–9
- Mansion House **150**
- Street-by-Street map 149
- Mantegna, Andrea 110
- The Triumphs of Caesar* 260
- Mantz, Werner 185
- Maps
- airports 371
- Bloomsbury 126–7
- Bloomsbury and Fitzrovia 125
- bus routes 378–9
- Central London 16–17
- Chelsea 197, 198–9
- Chelsea and Battersea walk 272–3
- The City 19, 147, 148–9
- Covent Garden and the Strand 115, 116–17
- England 14–15
- Europe 14
- Further afield 249
- Georgian London 28–9
- Greater London 15
- Greenwich 242–3
- Greenwich and Blackheath 241
- Hampstead 234–5
- Hampstead and Highgate 233
- Holborn and the Inns of Court 137
- Kensington and Holland Park 219, 220–21
- Lincoln's Inn 138–9
- London's Best: Ceremonies 56–7
- London's Best: Churches 48–9
- London's Best: Museums and Galleries 44–5
- London's Best: Parks and Gardens 52–3
- London's Best: Shopping Streets and Markets **318–19**
- Marylebone 226–7
- Mayfair and Belgravia walk 276–7
- Notting Hill walk 280–81
- Old Compton Street 113

- Piccadilly, Mayfair and St James's 91, 92–3
 Regent's Canal walk 270–71
 Regent's Park and Marylebone 225
 Richmond and Kew walk 274–5
 A River View of London 64–9
 Roman London 20–21
 Six guided walks 269
 Smithfield 166–7
 Smithfield and Spitalfields 165
 Soho and Trafalgar Square 103
 South Bank 189
 South Bank walk 278–9
 South Kensington 204–5
 South Kensington and Knightsbridge 203
 Southbank Centre 190–91
 Southwark and Bankside 177, 178–9
 Street Finder 382–419
 theatres 341
 Trafalgar Square 104–5
 Whitehall and Westminster 73, 74–5
- Marble Arch **213**
 Marble Hill House **258–9**
 Markets **317, 335–7**
 Acklam Village Market 281
 Bermondsey Street 187
 Berwick Street Market **13, 112**
 Borough Market 12, 176, 179, **180**, 279
 Brick Lane Market 319
 Camden Market **250**
 Central Market 117, 118
 Columbia Road 164, **175**, 319, **336**
 Golborne Road Flea Market 281
 Greenwich Market 242
 Jubilee Market 117
 Leadenhall Market **162**
 London's Best: Shopping Streets and Markets **318–19**
 Old Billingsgate **156**
 Old Spitalfields Market **173**
 Portobello Green 281
 Portobello Road 218, 223
 Smithfield Market 166, **168**
 Southbank Food Market 191
- Marks & Spencer **317**
 Marlborough, Duchess of 97
 Marlborough House **97**
 Marlowe, Christopher 43, 186
 Marochetti, Carlo
 statue of Richard I 74
 Martin, John 88
 Martin, Leslie 192
 Marx, Karl 131, 271
 grave 233, 237
 Mary I, Queen 24, 25, 38, 246
 tomb 83
 Mary II, Queen 39
 Hampton Court 260, 263
 Kensington Palace 212
- Marylebone
 pubs and bars 315
see also Regent's Park and Marylebone
 Marylebone Farmers' Market **337**
- Marylebone High Street
 Street-by-Street map 226
 Masaccio 110
 Matcham, Frank 123
 Matisse, Henri 185
 Matthew, Sir Robert 192
 Maughan Library 31
 Maurice, Bishop 153
 Mayfair
 art and antiques shops **332**, 334
 Mayfair and Belgravia walk **276–7**
 pubs and bars 314
see also Piccadilly, Mayfair and St James's
- Mazzuoli, Giuseppe 208
 Media **366–7**
 Medicine **362–3**
 Hunterian Museum 138, **141**
 Old Operating Theatre 12, **180–81**
 Wellcome Collection **134–5**
- Medieval churches **50**
 Medieval London **22–3**
 Melbury Road
 Street-by-Street map 220
 Mellitus, Bishop 153
 Memling, Hans 245
 Mendieta, Ana 185
 Merz, Marisa 185
 Methodist Church 28
 Metropolitan Railway 30, 32
 Michelangelo 110, 217
Madonna and Child 94
 Middle Temple 54
 Middle Temple Hall 25
 Military ceremonies **58**
 Mill, John Stuart 223
 Millais, John Everett 222
Ophelia 86, 88
 Millennium Bridge 279
 Millennium Dome *see* O2 Arena
 Milton, John 43, 169, 172
 Minicabs **381**
 Ministry of Defence 66
 Mobile phones **366**
 Modern London **34–5**
 Modigliani, Amedeo 121
 Mollet, André 96
 Monarchy **38–9**
 Crown Jewels 158, 159, **160**
 Monet, Claude 111, 121
 Money **364–5**
 Monuments
 Albert Memorial 202, 205, **209**
 Cenotaph 57, 58, 75, **78–9**
 Cleopatra's Needle **122**
 The Diana, Princess of Wales Memorial Playground **223**
 Florence Nightingale's Memorial 154
 The Monument 12, 13, 68, **156**
 Nightingale Monument 83
 Princess Diana Memorial fountain 213
 Temple Bar Memorial 139, **142–3**
 War Memorial 179
see also Statues
- Moody, F W 204
 Moore, Henry
 St James's Park Station 85
 St Stephen Walbrook 49, 150
 Tate Britain 87, 88
Three Standing Figures 272
 More, Sir Thomas 272
 Chelsea 198, 200
 execution 24, 159
 statues of 198, 200, 273
 Morris, William
 Liberty 113
 Victoria and Albert Museum 216
 William Morris Gallery 46, **253**
- Mosques
 Brick Lane Jamme Masjid **174**
 London Central Mosque **230**
- Mount Street Gardens 276
 Mulligan, Carey 43
 Murillo, Bartolomé Esteban 111, 257
- Museum Street
 Street-by-Street map 126
- Museums and galleries (general)
 admission prices 359
 cafés **308**, 310
 children in **354**
 London's Best **44–7**
 opening hours 359
- Museums and galleries (individual)
 Bank of England Museum 149, **151**
 Bankside Gallery **181**, 279
 British Museum 13, 40, 44, 46, 124, 126, **128–31**
 Burgh House **236**
 Charles Dickens Museum **132**
 Churchill War Rooms 74, **79**
 Clink Prison Museum 179, **186**, 279
 Courtauld Gallery 45, 47, **121**
 Design Museum 46, **222**
 Dr Johnson's House **144**
 Dulwich Picture Gallery 47, **256–7**
 Embankment Galleries 121
 Fan Museum **247**
 Faraday Museum 47, **101**
 Fashion and Textile Museum 46, 187
 Fenton House **236–7**
 Florence Nightingale Museum 47, **194**
 Foundling Museum **133**
 Freud Museum 46, **250**
 Geffrye Museum 46, **252**
 Grant Museum of Zoology 47, **135**
 Guards Museum 46, **85**
 Guildhall Art Gallery 163
 Handel & Hendrix in London **101, 345**
 Hayward Gallery 12, 47, 190, **192**, 278
 HMS *Belfast* 69, **187**
 Hogarth's House **265**
 Horniman Museum 47, **256**

Museums and galleries

(individual) (cont.)

Household Cavalry Museum 46, **84**Hunterian Museum 138, **141**Imperial War Museum 13, 45, 47, **194–5**Institute of Contemporary Arts **96**

Jewel Tower 78

Jewish Museum **251**

Kensington Palace 46

Kenwood House 47, **238–9**

Leighton House 220

London Dungeon **192**London Museum of Water & Steam 47, **264**London Transport Museum 13, 47, 117, **118–19**Madame Tussaud's 226, **228**

Mansion House 150

MCC Museum 250

Museum of Garden History 54, **194**Museum of London 17, 45, 46, 47, 167, **170–71**Museum of London Docklands **253**

Museum of Music 208

Museum of the Order of St John 168

Musical Museum **259**National Army Museum 46, **201**National Gallery 10, 12, 13, 16, 45, 47, 105, **108–11**National Maritime Museum 47, 243, **244**National Portrait Gallery 10, 13, 45, 105, **106–7**Natural History Museum 13, 16, 44, 47, 204, **206–7**Old Operating Theatre **180–81**Orleans House Gallery **258**Photographers' Gallery **113**Pitzhanger Manor House and Gallery **264**Pollock's Toy Museum 47, **135**19 Princelet Street **174**The Queen's Gallery **100**Ranger's House – the Wernher Collection **245**Royal Academy of Arts 10, 44, 47, 92, **94**

Royal Mews 100

Royal Observatory 47

Saatchi Gallery 47, **201**Science Museum 13, 44, 47, 204, **210–11**Serpentine Gallery **212**Sherlock Holmes Museum **230**Sir John Soane's Museum 46, 138, **140–41**

18 Stafford Terrace 46

Tate Britain 45, 47, **86–9**Tate Modern 12, 13, 45, 47, 67, 178, **182–5**, 279Tower of London 45, 46, **160–61**

Museums and galleries

(individual)

V&A Museum of Childhood 47, **252**Victoria and Albert Museum 13, 44, 46, 47, 205, **214–17**Wallace Collection 11, 44, 46–7, **230**Wellcome Collection **134–5**Whitechapel Gallery **173**William Morris Gallery 46, **253**

Wimbledon Lawn Tennis

Museum **257**Wimbledon Windmill Museum **257***see also* Houses, historic

Music

Fenton House 236–7

festivals **344**

Handel & Hendrix in London

101

Museum of Music 208

Musical Museum **259**

opera, classical and

contemporary music 61, 63,

344–5

outdoor concerts 55, 61

rock, pop, jazz and world music **347**, 349

Royal Academy of Music 226

Royal College of Music 204, **208**shops **326**, 327Wigmore Hall **230**

Muslims

Brick Lane Jamme Masjid 174

London Central Mosque **230**

Myddleton, Sir Hugh

statue of 251

N

Name-day ceremonies **59**

Napoleon I, Emperor 101, 135

Nash, John 28, 29, 42

All Souls, Langham Place 51, 229

Buckingham Palace 98

Carlton House Terrace **96**

Clarence House 92

Cumberland Terrace 231

Marble Arch 213

Park Crescent 227

Piccadilly Circus 94

Portland Place 229

Regent's Canal 231, 270

Regent's Park 225, 226, 228

Royal Mews 100

Royal Opera Arcade 96

Theatre Royal Haymarket 104, 107

Trafalgar Square 106

Nash, Paul 89, 118

National Army Museum 46, **201**National Gallery 16, **108–11**

Dutch, Italian, French and

Spanish painting 111

Early Renaissance Italian and

Northern European painting 110

English, French and German painting 111

National Gallery (cont.)

floorplan 108–9

Great days in London 10, 12, 13

High Renaissance Italian, Netherlandish and German painting 110

London's Best: Museums and Galleries 45, 47

Sainsbury Wing 111

Street-by-Street map 105

Venetian, French and English painting 111

Visitors' checklist 109

National Maritime Museum 47, **244**

Street-by-Street map 243

National Portrait Gallery **106–7**

Great days in London 10, 13

London's Best: Museums and Galleries 45

Street-by-Street map 105

National Theatre 34, **192**, 278, **340**

Street-by-Street map 190

Natural History Museum 13, 16, **206–7**

London's Best: Museums and Galleries 44, 47

Street-by-Street map 204

Navy Day 58, 59

Neal Street and Neal's Yard 13, **119**, 319

Neasden Temple 250–51

Nelson, Admiral Lord

National Maritime Museum 244

Nelson's Column 106

statue of 163

tomb 154

Nelson's Column 106

Neri, St Philip 208

New Caledonian Market **335**

New Row

Street-by-Street map 116

New Year 63

Newman, Cardinal John Henry 208

Newspapers 367

Fleet Street **143**

Newton, Adam 256

Newton, Sir Isaac 27, 107

Newton, William 141

Night buses 379

Nightingale, Lady Elizabeth 83

Nightingale, Florence

Florence Nightingale Museum 47, **194**

Memorial 154

Nogueira, Lucia 185

Noodle bars **310**, 311

North London

art and antiques shops **333**,

334

Northumberland, Dukes of 259, 275

Nost, John 263

Notre Dame

Street-by-Street map 104

Notting Hill **223**

pubs and bars 315

Notting Hill (cont.)

A Two-hour walk around
Notting Hill **280–81**

Notting Hill Carnival 61

O

Oak Apple Day 56, 59, 60

Observatories

Royal Observatory Greenwich
246–7

Olaf 21

Old Bailey **151**

Old Billingsgate 68, **156**

Old Bull and Bush

Street-by-Street map 234

Old Compton Street **113**

Old Curiosity Shop **142**

Street-by-Street map 138

The Old Dairy

Street-by-Street map 198

Old Operating Theatre 12, **180–81**

Old Royal Naval College **246**

Street-by-Street map 243

Old Spitalfields Market **173, 337**

The Old Vic 34, **195**

Ye Olde Cheshire Cheese **144**

Olivier, Laurence 43, 192

Olympic Games (1948) 34

Olympic Games (2012) 36, 37

Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park
254–5

Open air concerts 61, **345**

Open air theatre 61, **228, 340**

Opening hours 359

banks 364

restaurants 292–3

shops 316

Opera **344**

London Coliseum **123**

Royal Opera House 13, 117,
119, 344

Ophelia (Millais) 86, 88

The Orangery

Street-by-Street map 220

Oranges and Lemons service 59

Oriel House 274

Orleans, Louis Philippe, Duke of
258

Orleans House Gallery **258**

Orton, Joe 251

Orwell, George 43, 251, 280

Osterley Park 54

Osterley Park House **259**

Outdoor drinking **313**

Oxford, day trips to 380

Oxford, Robert Harley, Earl of 225

Oxford and Cambridge Boat Race
57, 60

Oxford v Cambridge rugby union
match 63

Oxo Tower 67, 195

South Bank walk 279

Oyster Cards **374**

P

The Painted Hall

Street-by-Street map 243

Palace Theatre **112, 113**

Palace of Westminster see Houses
of Parliament

Palaces

Buckingham Palace 10, 12, 13,
17, 56, 58, **98–9, 193**

Eltham Palace **256**

Fulham Palace **265**

Hampton Court 25, **260–63**

Kensington Palace 46, 54, **212**

Kew Palace 275

Lambeth Palace **194**

St James's Palace 56, 92, 93, **95**

Winchester Palace 23

Pall Mall **96**

Street-by-Street map 93

Palladio, Andrea 265

Palmerston, Lord 84, 222

Pancake races 63

Pankhurst, Emmeline 150

Pantechonicon 277

Pantomime 30, **340**

Paolozzi, Eduardo 209

Paris, Matthew 38

Park Crescent

Street-by-Street map 227

Parking **375**

Parks and gardens (general)

children in **355**

London's Best **52–5**

trees **54–5**

Parks and gardens (individual)

Barbican Centre 54

Battersea Park 53, 54, 55, **257**,
272

Blackheath **247**

Chelsea Physic Garden 54, 199,
201

Chiswick House 54

Embankment Gardens 66

Fenton House 54

Gray's Inn 54

Green Park 53, 54, **97**

Greenwich Park 53, 55, 240, **247**

Ham House 54

Hampstead Heath 52, 55, 234,
238

Hampton Court 54, **260–61**

The Hill Garden 54, **239**

Holland Park 52, 54, 220, **222**

Hyde Park 30, 52, 54, 56, 58,

213, 277

Jubilee Gardens 191, 278

Kensington Gardens 13, 52, 54,

212–13

Kensington Palace 54

Kensington Roof Gardens **223**

Kew Gardens 28, 52, 54, 55,

266–7, 275

Lincoln's Inn Fields 54, 138,

141

Middle Temple 54

Mount Street Gardens 276

Museum of Garden History 54,
194

Osterley Park 54

Parliament Hill 55, **238–9**

Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park

53, 55, **254–5**

Ranelagh Gardens 272

Parks and gardens (individual)
(cont.)

Regent's Park 53, 54, 55, 226,
228, 270

Richmond Park 52, 55, **258**

Roper's Garden 198, **200**, 273

St James's Park 10, 12, 13, 53, 54,
55, **96**

Syon House 55

Victoria Embankment Gardens
122

see also Squares

Parliament see Houses of
Parliament

Parliament Hill **238–9**

outdoor concerts 55

Parliament Square 12, **78**

Street-by-Street map 74

Passports **358**, 361

Pasta **309**, 311

Paterson, William 27

Patisserie Valerie 113

Paxton, Joseph 31, 259

Peabody Buildings 31

Peace – Burial at Sea (Turner) 87

Pearly Harvest Festival 62

Pearly Kings and Queens 59

Peasants' Revolt (1381) 23, 166, 247

Pelli, César 35

Pepys, Samuel 27, 43

All Hallows by the Tower 157

St Paul's Church 118

Ye Olde Cheshire Cheese 144

Perfume shops **329**, 330–31

Perry, Grayson 89

Personal security **362–3**

Petticoat Lane Market **173, 337**

Pharmacies 363

No. 16 Phillimore Place

Street-by-Street map 221

Phillip IV of Spain (Velázquez) 109

Phipps, C J 107

Phones **366**

Photography

Photographers' Gallery **113**

shopping **333**, 334

Piano, Renzo 186

Piazotta, Enzo

The Young Dancer 114

Piazza and Central Market

(Covent Garden) 12, **118**

Street-by-Street map 117

Picasso, Pablo 184

Piccadilly Circus **94**

Street-by-Street map 93

Piccadilly Crafts Market **337**

Piccadilly, Mayfair and St James's
91–101

area map 91

art and antiques shops **332**,
334

Buckingham Palace **98–9**

pubs and bars 314

Street-by-Street map 92–3

Piero della Francesca

The Baptism of Christ 108, 110

Piero di Cosimo 110

Pimlico Road

art and antiques shops **332**, 334

Piombo, Sebastiano del 110
 Pisanello 110
 Pissarro, Camille 121
 Pistoletto, Michelangelo 185
 Pitt, William the Elder 94
 Pitzhanger Manor House and Gallery **264**
 Pizza **309, 311**
 Pizza Express
 Street-by-Street map 126
 Plaques
 remarkable Londoners **43**
 Playgrounds
 The Diana, Princess of Wales Memorial Playground **223**
 Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park 253
 Pluchino, Ignazio 171
 Police 362, 363
 Bow Street Police station 117
 Pollock, Benjamin 135
 Pollock, Jackson 173
 Pollock's Toy Museum 47, **135**
 Pop music **347, 349**
 Portcullis House 75
 Portland Place **229**
 Street-by-Street map 227
 Portman Square 28
 Portobello Green market 281
 Portobello Road **223, 269**
 market 218, **337**
 Notting Hill walk 280
Portrait of Captain Coram
 (Hogarth) 133
 Portsmouth, Duchess of 119
 Post-Modern architecture 35
 Postal services 367
 Poussin, Nicolas 257
 Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood 237, 253
 Priestley, J B 236
 Prime ministers
 Downing Street **79**
 Primrose Hill
 pubs and bars 315
 Regent's Canal walk 270–71
 Primrose Hill Studios 271
 19 Princelet Street **174**
 The Princes in the Tower **161**
 Private homes, staying in **286, 287**
 The Proms 61, 62
 Public holidays 63
 Pubs **312–15**
 The Anchor 179, **186**
 The Coach and Horses 113
 entertainment in **313**
 food in **309**
 Fox and Anchor 166
 George Inn 179, **180**
 Lamb and Flag 116, **119**
 Old Bull and Bush 234
 Queens 271
 riverside 65
 Spaniards Inn **239**
 Trafalgar Tavern **246**
 Ye Olde Cheshire Cheese **144**
 Puppets
 Covent Garden May Fayre and Puppet Festival 60

Purcell, Henry 162
 Puritans 26
Q
Quattro Stagioni (Twombly) 183
 Queen Anne's Gate **84**
 Queen Elizabeth Hall 278
 Street-by-Street map 190
 Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park **254–5**
 London's Best: Parks and Gardens 53, 55
 Queens (pub) 271
 Queen's Accession gun salutes 63
 Queen's Birthday gun salutes 60
 Queen's Chapel **97**
 Queen's Gallery **100**
 Queen's House **244**
 Street-by-Street map 243

R
 Racing **350**
 Rackham, Arthur 271
 Radio 367
 Rahere 169
 Railway stations
 Charing Cross 123
 St Pancras International **133**
 Waterloo Station **195**
 see also Underground stations
 Railways see Trains
 Rainfall 62
 Raleigh, Walter 25, 159
 Ranelagh Gardens 272
 Ranger's House – the Wernher Collection **245**
 Raphael
 Dulwich Picture Gallery 257
 National Gallery 108, 110
 Victoria and Albert Museum 217
 Rauschenberg, Robert 173
 Ravens
 Tower of London **158**
 Reagan, Ronald 101
 Red Lion Yard 276
 Redgrave, Vanessa 120
 Regency churches **51**
 Regent's Canal **231, 268**
 Regent's Canal walk **270–71**
 Regent's Park **228**
 London's Best: Parks and Gardens 53, 54, 55
 outdoor concerts 55
 Regent's Canal walk 270
 Street-by-Street map 226
 Regent's Park and Marylebone **225–31**
 area map 225
 bed & breakfast 291
 hotels 288–91
 Marylebone: Street-by-Street map 226–7
 restaurants 301–2
 Religious services 359, 361
 Rembrandt
 Jacob III de Gheyn 256, 257
 Kenwood House 238

Rembrandt (cont.)
 National Gallery 111
 Wallace Collection 230
 Remembrance Day 62, 79
 Remembrance Sunday 57, 58, 59
 Rennie, John 191
 Renoir, Pierre Auguste 121
 At the Theatre 109, 111
 Responsible tourism **361**
 Restaurants **292–307**
 Bloomsbury and Regent's Park 301–2
 children in 293, **353**
 The City and the East End 302–4
 The Flavours of London **294–5**
 Further afield 305–7
 Kensington and Chelsea 299–301
 opening hours 292–3
 prices and service 293
 Southwark and the South Bank 304–5
 Westminster and the West End 296–9
 see also Food and drink
 Restoration London **26–7**
 Reynolds, Sir Joshua 42
 Kenwood House 238
 Leicester Square 107
 National Gallery 111
 Royal Academy of Arts 92
 Spaniards Inn 239
 Tate Britain 88
 tomb 106
 Wallace Collection 230
 Richard I, King 23, 38
 statue of 74
 Richard II, King 38, 166
 Wilton Diptych 110
 Richard III, King 38, 148, 161
 Richardson, Sir Ralph 43
 Richelieu, Cardinal 111
 Richier, Germaine 184
 Richmond 64, **259**
 Richmond and Kew walk **274–5**
 Richmond, William 154
 Richmond House
 Street-by-Street map 75
 Richmond Lock 274
 Richmond Park **258**
 London's Best: Parks and Gardens 52, 55
 Richmond Theatre 274
 Ridley, Bishop 24
 Ridley Road Market **337**
 Riley, Bridget 185
 Ritz, César 92, 94–5
 Ritz Hotel 92, **94–5**
 A River View of London **64–9**
 Rivera, Diego 184
 Riverboats **379**
 Riverside Walk Market **336**
 Rock music **347, 349**
 Rodin, Auguste
 Burgbers of Calais 74
 Rogers, Richard 34, 35, 163
 Roman Bath **122**

Roman London 19, **20–21**
 Guildhall 163
 Roman Road Market **337**
Rome: The Pantheon (Canaletto) 98
 Romney, George 230, 238
 Ronnie Scott's 113
 Roosevelt, Franklin D
 statue of 101, 276
 Roper, Margaret 200
 Roper, William 200
 Roper's Garden **200**, 273
 Street-by-Street map 198
 Rosa, Salvator 111
 The Rose Playhouse **186**
 Rossetti, Dante Gabriel
 Cheyne Walk 197, 198
 Downshire Hill 237
 Liberty 113
Venus Ventricordia 42
 Rothko, Mark 184
 Rothschild, Baron Ferdinand 130
 Rotten Row 277
 Roubliliac, Louis François 230
 Nightingale Monument 83
 Rousseau, Henri 111
 Royal Academy of Arts 10, 28, **94**
 London's Best: Museums and
 Galleries 44, 47
 Street-by-Street map 92
 Summer Exhibition 61
 Royal Academy of Music
 Street-by-Street map 226
 Royal Albert Hall 202, **209, 345**
 Street-by-Street map 204
 Royal Avenue 273
 Royal Botanic Gardens see Kew
 Gardens
 Royal ceremonies **58**
 Royal College of Art **209**
 Street-by-Street map 204
 Royal College of Music **208**
 Street-by-Street map 204
 Royal College of Organists 204
 Royal Courts of Justice 136, **142**
 Street-by-Street map 139
 Royal Exchange **151**
 Street-by-Street map 149
 Royal family **38–9**
 Crown Jewels 158, 159, **160**
 Royal Festival Hall 34, **192**, 278
 Great days in London 11, 12
 Street-by-Street map 190
 Royal Geographical Society 205
 Royal Hospital Chelsea **201**
 London's Best: Ceremonies 56,
 59
 Chelsea and Battersea walk
 272
 Royal Institute of British
 Architects 229
 Street-by-Street map 227
 Royal Mews **100**
 Royal Observatory Greenwich 47,
246–7
 Royal Opera Arcade **96**
 Royal Opera House 13, **119, 344**
 Street-by-Street map 117
 Royal Salutes 58, 59, 60, 61, 63

Rubens, Peter Paul
 Apsley House 101
 Banqueting House 27, 75, 84
 Courtauld Gallery 121
 National Gallery 108, 111
 Rugby Union 63, **350**
 Rules (restaurant) 117
 Ruskin, John 113
 Russell Square 54, **132**
 Street-by-Street map 127
 Rysbrack, John
 statue of George II 243
S
 Saarinen, Eero 101
 Saatchi Gallery 47, **201**
 Sadleir, Ralph 252
 Safety **362–3**
 St Albans, day trips to 380
 St Alfege Church 51, **244–5**
 Street-by-Street map 242
 St Andrew, Holborn **144**
 St Anne's, Limehouse 51, **253**
 St Anne's Church Tower 113
 St Bartholomew-the-Great 50,
169
 Street-by-Street map 167
 St Bartholomew-the-Less
 Street-by-Street map 166
 St Bartholomew's Hospital
 Street-by-Street map 166
 St Botolph, Aldersgate **169**
 St Bride's **143**
 London's Best: Churches 50, 51
 St Clement Danes 51, **142**
 Street-by-Street map 139
 St Etheldreda's Chapel **145**
 St George's, Bloomsbury **132**
 London's Best: Churches 50, 51
 Street-by-Street map 127
 St Giles, Cripplegate **169**
 St Helen's Bishopsgate **162**
 St James's see Piccadilly, Mayfair
 and St James's
 St James's Church 51, **94**
 Street-by-Street map 93
 St James's, Garlickhythe 51
 Street-by-Street map 148
 St James's Palace 92, **95**
 London's Best: Ceremonies 56
 Street-by-Street map 93
 St James's Park **96**
 Great days in London 10, 12, 13
 London's Best: Parks and
 Gardens 53, 54, 55
 outdoor concerts 55
 St James's Park Station **85**
 St James's Square **95**
 Street-by-Street map 93
 St James's Street 10
St Jerome in his Study (Antonello
 da Messina) 110
 St John's Smith Square **85, 345**
 St Katharine Cree **162**
 St Katharine Docks 69, **162**
 Great days in London 11, 12, 13
 St Leonard's Church **175**
 St Luke's Church 273
 St Magnus the Martyr 51, **156**

St Margaret's Church **78**
 Street-by-Street map 74
 St Martin-in-the-Fields **106**
 concerts **345**
 London's Best: Churches 48, 50,
 51
 Street-by-Street map 105
 St Martin's Theatre
 Street-by-Street map 116
 St Mary Abchurch
 Street-by-Street map 149
 St Mary Aldermary
 Street-by-Street map 148
 30 St Mary Axe ("the Gherkin") 36,
 163
 St Mary-le-Bow **151**
 London's Best: Churches 50, 51
 Street-by-Street map 148
 St Mary-le-Strand **122**
 London's Best: Churches 49, 51
 St Mary, Rotherhithe **252**
 St Mary Woolnoth
 London's Best: Churches 49, 51
 Street-by-Street map 149
 St Marylebone Parish Church
228–9
 Street-by-Street map 226
 St Mary's, Battersea **257**
 St Nicholas Cole Abbey
 Street-by-Street map 148
 St Olave's House 68
 St Pancras International **133**
 St Pancras Old Church and
 Graveyard **134**
 St Pancras Parish Church 51, **134**
 St Paul's Cathedral 146, **152–5**
 floorplan 152–3
 Great days in London 12, 13
 Great Fire 26
 A guided tour of St Paul's 154–5
 London's Best: Churches 49, 51
 A River View of London 67
 Street-by-Street map 148
 Visitors' checklist 153
 St Paul's Church **118**
 London's Best: Churches 48, 50
 Street-by-Street map 117
 St Saviour's Dock 69
 St Stephen Walbrook **150**
 London's Best: Churches 49, 51
 Street-by-Street map 149
 Sales 317
 Salisbury, day trips to 380
The Saltonstall Family (Des
 Granges) 87
 Sam Wanamaker Playhouse 181
 Sambourne, Linley 222
Samson and Delilah (van Dyck)
 47
 The Sanctuary
 Street-by-Street map 74
 Sargent, John Singer 42–3, 88,
 195
 Saunders, Nicholas 119
 Savoy Chapel **120**
 Savoy Hotel 66, **120**
The Scale of Love (Watteau) 111
 Scarves, shopping **329, 330**
 Schaufelburg, Ernest 120

- Science Museum 13, **210–11**
 London's Best: Museums and Galleries 44, 47
 Street-by-Street map 204
- Scott, Sir George Gilbert 42
 Albert Memorial 209
 Victoria and Albert Museum 217
- Scott, Sir Giles Gilbert 134
 Bankside Power Station 184
 Waterloo Bridge 191
- Scott, John 120
- Scott, Robert Falcon 43
- Screenings at Somerset House 61
- Sea Containers House 279
- Sea Life London Aquarium 192, 278
- Security **362–3**
 airports 370
- Sehgal, Tino 185
- Self-catering flats **286, 287**
- Self-Portrait with Bandaged Ear* (Van Gogh) 121
- Self-Portrait with Knickers* (Lucas) 89
- Senate House
 Street-by-Street map 126
- Senior travellers 360
- Serpentine 277
- Serpentine Gallery **212**
- Serra, Richard 185
- Seurat, Georges 111
- Seven Dials 11, **120**
 Street-by-Street map 116
- Severs, Dennis
 Dennis Severs' House **175**
- Shaftesbury, Earl of 94, 107
- Shaftesbury Avenue **107**
 Street-by-Street map 104
- Shakespeare, William 25, 43
 Broadcasting House 229
 First Folio 26
 Fleet Street 143
 Gray's Inn 145
 The Great Bed of Ware 216
Hamlet 86
 The Old Vic 195
 portrait of 106, 107
 The Rose Playhouse 186
 Shakespeare's Globe **181**
 statue of 104
 Temple 143
 Westminster Abbey 83
- Shakespeare's Globe 24–5, **181**
 Great days in London 12, 13
 A River View of London 68
 South Bank walk 279
 Street-by-Street map 178
- The Shard 37, 68, **186**
 Great days in London 12, 13
 South Bank walk 279
- Shaw, George Bernard 43, 131, 135
- Shaw, Norman 42, 205
- Shell Building
 Street-by-Street map 191
- Shell Mex House 66
- Shelley, Harriet 212
- Shelley, Percy Bysshe 239
- Shepherd, Edward 101, 276
- Shepherd Market **101**, 276
- Shepherd's Bush Market **337**
- Sherlock Holmes Museum **230**
- Sherman, Cindy 184
- Shoe shops **322, 324**
- Shopping **316–37**
 art and antiques **332–4**
 children **354**
 clothes **320–24**
 department stores 317
 Fortnum & Mason 10, 92
 gifts and souvenirs **328–31**
 Harrods **213**
 how to pay 316
 London's Best: Shopping Streets and Markets **318–19**
 opening hours 316
 rights and services 316
 sales 317
 shoes **322, 324**
 specialist shops **325–7**
 VAT exemption 316
- Sicilian Avenue
 Street-by-Street map 127
- Siddons, Sarah 43
- Silent Change 59
- Silver
 London Silver Vaults **145**
- Simpson, Wallis 33
- Sir John Soane's Museum **140–41**
 London's Best: Museums and Galleries 46
 Street-by-Street map 138
- The Sky Garden **156–7**
- Sloane, Sir Hans
 British Museum 128
 Chelsea Physic Garden 201
 Sloane Square 201
 statue of 199
- Sloane Square **201**, 273
- Smirke, Robert 128
- Smith, Jack 112
- Smith, Sir Matthew 163
- Smith, Zadie 43
- Smithfield Market **168**
 Street-by-Street map 166
- Smithfield and Spitalfields **165–75**
 area map 165
 Museum of London **170–71**
 Street-by-Street map 166–7
- Smoking 359
 in restaurants 293
- Snacks **308–11**
- Snowdon, Lord 270–71
- Soane, Sir John 28, 42
 Bank of England 151
 Dulwich Picture Gallery 256–7
 Pitzhanger Manor House 264
 Ranelagh Gardens 272
 Sir John Soane's Museum 46, 138, **140–41**
 tomb 134
- Soccer **350**
- Social customs 359
- Soho and Trafalgar Square **103–13**
 area map 103
 The Heart of Soho **113**
- Soho and Trafalgar Square (cont.)
 National Gallery **108–11**
 pubs and bars 314
 Trafalgar Square: Street-by-Street map 104–5
- Soho Square 13, 55, **112**
- Somerset, Duke of 121
- Somerset House 61, 66, **121**
- South Bank **189–95**
 A 90-minute walk along the South Bank **278–9**
 area map 189
 for children **353**
 pubs and bars 315
 A River View of London 66
 Southbank Centre: Street-by-Street map 190–91
- South Kensington and Knightsbridge **203–17**
 area map 203
 art and antiques shops **332, 334**
 Natural History Museum **206–7**
 pubs and bars 315
 Science Museum **210–11**
 shopping 318
 South Kensington: Street-by-Street map 204–5
 Victoria and Albert Museum **214–17**
- Southampton, Earl of 132
- Southbank Centre 12, 13, 278, **344**
 Street-by-Street map 190–91
- Southbank Food Market
 Street-by-Street map 191
- Southbank summer season 61
- Southwark and Bankside **177–87**
 area map 177
 Great days in London 12, 13
 hotels 289, 291
 pubs and bars 315
 restaurants 304–5
 South Bank walk 279
 Southwark: Street-by-Street map 178–9
 Tate Modern **182–5**
- Southwark Bridge
 Street-by-Street map 178
- Southwark Cathedral **180**, 279
 London's Best: Churches 49, 50
 A River View of London 68
 Street-by-Street map 179
- Souvenirs, shopping **328–31**
- Spaniards Inn **239**
- Spanish Armada 25
- Spanish restaurants 295
- Speakers' Corner **213**, 277
- Spence, Sir Basil 84, 221
- Spencer, 1st Earl 95
- Spencer, Herbert
 grave 237
- Spencer, Stanley 237, 239
- Spencer House **95**
 Street-by-Street map 92
- Spires **50**
- Spitalfields *see* Smithfield and Spitalfields
- Spitalfields Music Winter Festival 63

Spitalfields Summer Festival 61
 Sports **350–51**
 for children **355**
 in parks 55
 Sprague, William 120
 Spring Equinox celebration 60
 Spring in London 60
 Squares
 Bedford Square 126
 Berkeley Square 29, 54, 276
 Bloomsbury Square 127, **132**
 Brompton Square 205
 Charterhouse 167, **168**
 Fitzroy Square **135**
 Granary Square **134**
 Grosvenor Square 28, 54–5, **101**
 Hanover Square 28
 Kensington Square **223**
 Leicester Square 12, 13, 104, **107**
 Manchester Square 28, 29
 Parliament Square 12, 74, **78**
 Portman Square 28
 Russell Square 54, 127, **132**
 St James's Square 93, **95**
 Sloane Square **201**, 273
 Soho Square 13, 55, **112**
 Trafalgar Square 10, 12, 13, 104–5, **106**
 Wellington Square 273
 see also Parks and gardens
 Squash **350**
 18 Stafford Terrace 46, **222**
 Street-by-Street map 221
 Stanfords
 Street-by-Street map 116
 Stansted Airport **372–3**
 Staple Inn **145**
 State Opening of Parliament 57, 58, 59, 60
 Stationery shops **329**, 331
 Statues
 Abraham Lincoln 78
 Benjamin Disraeli 74
 Boudicca 75, 278
 Boy and Dolphin 199
 Charles II 112, 272
 Charles James Fox 127
 Charlie Chaplin 107
 David Livingstone 205
 Dr Johnson 142
 Duke of Bedford 127
 Earl Haig 75
 Franklin D. Roosevelt 101, 276
 George II 243
 George IV 106
 Gladstone Statue 138
 Golden Boy of Pye Corner 166
 Nelson Mandela 74
 Prince Albert 209
 Queen Anne 84
 Queen Victoria 212
 Richard I 74
 Robert Burns 122
 Sir George Stuart White 227
 Sir Hans Sloane 199
 Sir Hugh Myddleton 251
 Sir Joshua Reynolds 92
 Sir Thomas More 273

Statues (cont.)
 Sir Winston Churchill 163
 Thomas Carlyle 273
 Thomas More 198, 200
 William III 93, 95
 William Shakespeare 104
 Winston Churchill 74, 78
 see also Monuments
 Steer, Philip Wilson 42
 Stephen, King 38
 Stevenson, Robert Louis 135
 Sticky Fingers
 Street-by-Street map 221
 Stirling, Sir James 86
 Stock Exchange 29
 Strachey, Lytton 132
 Strand
 pubs and bars 314
 see also Covent Garden and the Strand
 Strand on the Green **264**, 269, 275
 Street food **310–11**
The Struggle is My Life (Walters) 191
 Stuart, James 246
 Summer in London 61
Sunflowers (Van Gogh) 111
 Sunshine 61
 Sutherland, Graham 118
 Sutton House **252**
 Swimming **350**
 Swinburne, Algernon Charles 197
 Synagogues
 19 Princelet Street 174
 Syon House 55, **259**, 275

T

Tallis, Thomas
 grave 245
 Tate Britain **86–9**
 20th-century British art 88–9
 BP Walk Through British Art 88
 café 87
 children at 89
 Clare Galleries 89
 floorplan 86–7
 London's Best: Museums and Galleries 45, 47
 temporary exhibitions 89
 Turner Prize 89
 Visitors' checklist 87
 Tate Modern **182–5**
 Bankside Power Station 184
 Energy and Process 184–5
 floorplan 182–3
 Great days in London 12, 13
 London's Best: Museums and Galleries 45, 47
 A River View of London 67
 South Bank walk 279
 Street-by-Street map 178
 Visitors' checklist 183
 Taxes
 in hotels 284
 VAT exemption in shops 316
 Taxis **381**
 Tea **308**, 310
 Telecom Tower 34, 135
 Telephones **366**, 367
 Television 367
 Telford, Thomas 162
 Temperatures 63
 Temple **143**
 A River View of London 67
 Street-by-Street map 139
 Temple Bar 142–3
 Street-by-Street map 148
 Temple Bar Memorial **142–3**
 Street-by-Street map 139
 Temple Church
 London's Best: Churches 49, 50
 Tennis 61, **350**
 Wimbledon Lawn Tennis Museum **257**
 Tennyson, Alfred, Lord 200
 Terrorist attacks 36
 Terry, Ellen 43
 Thackeray, William 168, 200
 Thames, River
 boats **379**
 A Day on the River 11
 Head of the River Race 60
 London's Best: Ceremonies 57
 Oxford and Cambridge Boat Race 57, 60
 Richmond and Kew walk 274
 A River View of London **64–9**
 Totally Thames 62
 Thames Barrier 35, 65, **253**
 Thatcher, Margaret 34, 173
 Theatres **340–42**
 Adelphi Theatre **120**
 cafés **308**, 310
 for children **354–5**
 Hippodrome 105
 London Coliseum **123**, **344**
 National Theatre 34, 190, **192**, 278, **340**
 The Old Vic 34, **195**
 Open Air Theatre, Regent's Park 228
 Palace Theatre **112**, 113
 Richmond Theatre 274
 The Rose Playhouse **186**
 Royal Opera House 13, 117, **119**, **344**
 St Martin's Theatre 116
 Sam Wanamaker Playhouse 181
 Shakespeare's Globe 12, 13, 24–5, 68, 178, **181**, 279
 Theatre Royal Drury Lane 117, **119**
 Theatre Royal Haymarket 104, **107**
 Wyndham's Theatre **120**
 Theft 362
 Thomas, Dylan 135
 Thomas Neal's **120**
 Street-by-Street map 116
 Thomson, James 231
 Thornhill, Sir James
 Old Royal Naval College 246
 The Painted Hall 243
 St Paul's Cathedral 154
 Thornycroft, Thomas
 statue of Boudicca 75
 Thrale, Henry 186
 Thrale, Mrs 144

Three Studies for Figures at the Base of a Crucifixion (Bacon) 86, 88
 Tickets
 for entertainments 339
 Oyster Cards and Travelcards **374**
 rail tickets 380
 Underground railway 376
 Tiepolo, Giovanni Battista 111
 Tijo, Jean
 St Alfege Church 244, 245
 St Paul's Cathedral 154
 Time zones 361
 Tipping 359
 in hotels 285
 Titian 101, 110, 230
 Toiletries shops **329**, 330–31
 Totally Thames 62
 Tourist information **358–9**, 361
 Tours **358–9**, 361
 Tower Bridge 64, **157**
 Great days in London 11, 12, 13
 A River View of London 69
 Tower of London 16, 18, **158–61**
 Crown Jewels 158, 159, **160**
 Great days in London 11, 12
 Great Fire 27
 history 23
 The Line of Kings 161
 London's Best: Ceremonies 57, 58
 London's Best: Museums and Galleries 45, 46
 Ordnance Gallery 161
 The Princes in the Tower 161
 Ravens **158**
 A River View of London 69
 Royal Castle and Armour Gallery 161
 Royal Salutes 58
 Visitors' checklist 159
 White Tower 161
 Townsend, C Harrison 173
 Toys
 Pollock's Toy Museum 47, **135**
 Tradescant, John
 tomb 194
 Trafalgar Square **106**
 Great days in London 10, 12, 13
 see also Soho and Trafalgar Square
 Trafalgar Tavern **246**
 Trains 31, **380**
 Docklands Light Railway 35
 getting to London **368**, 369
 see also Railway stations
 Travel **368–81**
 air **370–73**
 boats **379**
 buses **378–9**
 cars **375**
 coaches **369**
 cycling **375**
 London Transport Museum 13, 47, 117, **118–19**
 sea and tunnel **369**
 taxis **381**
 trains **368**, 369, **380**
 Underground 31, 374, **376–7**
 Travel insurance 363
 Travelcards **374**

Treasury
 Street-by-Street map 74
 Trees **54–5**
 Trent, N A 123
The Triumphs of Caesar (Mantegna) 260
 Trooping the Colour 56, 58, 59, 61
 Tube see Underground railway
 Tunnel, Channel **369**
 Turkey auction 63
 Turner, J M W 42, 252
 Cheyne Walk 197, 198, 200
 Kenwood House 238
 National Gallery 111
 Peace – Burial at Sea 87
 St Mary's, Battersea 257
 Shipping at the Mouth of the Thames 89
 Tate Britain 86, 89
 Turner Prize 89
 Turpin, Dick 239
 Tussaud, Madame 228
 Twain, Mark 144, 229
 Twickenham Bridge 274
 Twinings
 Street-by-Street map 138
 Twombly, Cy 184
Quattro Stagioni 183
 Tyler, Wat 156, 166, 247

U

Uccello, Paolo 110
 Underground railway 31, 374, **376–7**
 Jubilee Line 35
 St James's Park Station **85**
 station architecture **376**
 Underwear and lingerie shops **322**, 324
 UNESCO World Heritage Sites
 Greenwich 242
 Kew Gardens **266–7**
 Universities
 staying in 287
 University Boat Race 57, 60
 University of London 126
Untitled (Bell) 185
 US Embassy 276

V

Vale of Health **239**
 Van Dyck, Sir Anthony
 Kenwood House 238
 National Gallery 111
 Samson and Delilah 47
 Van Gogh, Vincent
 Self-Portrait with Bandaged Ear 121
 Sunflowers 111
 Vanbrugh, Sir John 246
 Varah, Chad 150
 VAT exemption in shops 316
 Vaughan Williams, Ralph 208
 Velázquez, Diego
 Apsley House 101
 National Gallery 111
 Phillip IV of Spain 109
 Venturi, Robert 111
Venus Ventricordia (Rossetti) 42

Vermeer, Jan
 Kenwood House 238
 The Queen's Gallery 100
Young Woman Standing at a Virginal 111
 Verrio, Antonio 263
 Victoria, Queen 31, 39
 Admiralty Arch 106
 Albert Memorial 209
 Buckingham Palace 98
 coronation 81
 Crown Jewels 160
 Kensington Palace 212
 Royal Albert Hall 209
 Royal Mews 100
 statues of 212
 Victoria and Albert Museum 13, **214–17**
 Architecture Gallery 216
 British Galleries 216
 China, Japan and South Asia 216
 Europe 217
 floorplan 214–15
 Glass and Ceramics 217
 The Great Bed of Ware 216
 London's Best: Museums and Galleries 44, 46, 47
 Metalwork 217
 Street-by-Street map 205
 Textiles and Fashion 217
 V&A Museum of Childhood 47, **252**
 Visitors' checklist 215
 Victoria Embankment Gardens **122**
 Victorian London **30–31**
 churches **51**
 El Vino
 Street-by-Street map 139
 Vinopolis
 Street-by-Street map 179
 Vintners' and Distillers' Wine Harvest 59, 62
 Visas **358**, 361

W

Wagner, Richard 119
 Walks **269–81**, **374**
 Chelsea and Battersea **272–3**
 Mayfair and Belgravia **276–7**
 Notting Hill **280–81**
 Regent's Canal **270–71**
 Richmond and Kew **274–5**
 South Bank **278–9**
 Wallace Collection 11, **230**
 London's Best: Museums and Galleries 44, 46–7
 Walpole, Sir Robert 79
 Walters, Ian
 The Struggle is My Life 191
 Walworth, Lord Mayor 156
 War Memorial
 Street-by-Street map 179
 Water sports **351**
 Waterhouse, Alfred 42, 206
 Waterloo Bridge
 Street-by-Street map 191
 Waterloo Station **195**

- Waters, Sarah 43
 Watteau, Jean-Antoine 257
The Scale of Love 111
 Watts, George Frederick
 Kensington Gardens 212
 Leighton House 222
 St Botolph, Aldersgate 169
 Waugh, Evelyn 251
 Weather 60–63, 358
 Webb, Aston
 Admiralty Arch 106
 The Mall 97
 Victoria and Albert Museum 215
 Wedgwood 30
 Weiss, David 185
 Well Walk **236**
 Street-by-Street map 235
 Wellcome, Sir Henry 134
 Wellcome Collection **134–5**
 Wellington, Duke of 277
 Apsley House 42, 101
 Pall Mall 96
 Wellington Arch **100**
 Wellington Square 273
 Wernher, Sir Julius 245
 Wesley, John 28
 Chapel-Leysian Mission **172–3**
 Charterhouse 167, 168
 Wessex, Earl of 99
 West, Benjamin 88
 West End
 art and antiques shops **332–3**, 334
 cinemas **343**
 shops **319**
 theatres **340**, 341
 Westminster see Whitehall and Westminster
 Westminster Abbey 22, **80–83**
 coronations 83
 floorplan 80–81
 Great days in London 10, 12, 13
 A guided tour of Westminster Abbey 82–3
 London's Best: Churches 48, 50
 Street-by-Street map 74
 Visitors' checklist 81
 Westminster Cathedral **85**
 London's Best: Churches 48, 51
 Westminster Hall 23, 76, 77
 Westminster Pier
 Street-by-Street map 75
 Westwood, Vivienne 35, 217
 Wheelchair access see Disabled travellers
 Whistler, James McNeill 42, 197, 198
 Whistler, Rex 87
 White, Field Marshal Sir George Stuart
 statue of 227
 Whitechapel Gallery **173**
 Whitehall and Westminster **73–89**
 area map 73
 Whitehall and Westminster **73–89**
 (cont.)
 bed & breakfast 291
 hotels 288–90
 Houses of Parliament **76–7**
 restaurants 296–9
 South Bank walk 278
 Street-by-Street map 74–5
 Tate Britain **86–9**
 Westminster Abbey **80–83**
 Whitestone Pond
 Street-by-Street map 234
 Whitfield, William 75
 Whittington, Richard (Dick) 22, 23
 Wickham, Geoffrey 277
 Wigmore Hall **230, 345**
 Wilde, Oscar 43, 229
 Wildlife **55**
 see also Aquarium; Zoos
 Wilkie, David 87, 88
 Wilkins, William 108, 135
 William, Prince 37, 80, 81
 William II, King 38
 William III, King 27, 39, 161
 Hampton Court 260, 263
 Kensington Palace 212
 statue of 93, 95
 William IV, King 29, 39, 212
 Buckingham Palace 98
 Clarence House 92
 William the Conqueror 22, 38
 Tower of London 159, 161
 William Morris Gallery 46, **253**
 Wilson, Sir Colin St John 133
 Wilson, Richard 259
 Wimbledon Lawn Tennis Championships 61
 Wimbledon Lawn Tennis Museum **257**
 Wimbledon Windmill Museum **257**
 Winchester Palace 23
 Windmills
 Wimbledon Windmill Museum **257**
 Windsor, day trips to 380
 Wine
 wine bars 292
 Winter in London 63
 Wolsey, Cardinal Thomas **263**
 Cardinal's Wharf 181
 Hampton Court 260
 Wood, Sir Henry 271
 Woolf, Virginia 43, 132, 135
 World music **347**, 349
 World War I 32–3
 Cenotaph 79
 Imperial War Museum 194–5
 War Memorial 179
 Westminster Abbey 82
 World War II 19, 32, **33**, 34
 Churchill War Rooms 74, **79**
 HMS Belfast **187**
 World War II (cont.)
 Imperial War Museum 194–5
 Wornum, Grey 227
 Wren, Sir Christopher 42, **51**, 122, 245
 Cardinal's Wharf 181, 279
 Christ Church tower 167
 Hampton Court 260–62
 Kensington Palace 212
 Marlborough House 97
 Monument 12, **156**
 Old Royal Naval College 243, 246
 Queen's Chapel 97
 Royal Hospital Chelsea 201, 272
 Royal Observatory Greenwich 246
 St Andrew, Holborn **144**
 St Bride's 50, 51, 143
 St Clement Danes 51, 139, **142**
 St James's Church 51, 93, 94
 St James's, Garlickhythe 51, 148
 St Katharine Cree 162
 St Lawrence Jewry 163
 St Magnus the Martyr 51, **156**
 St Mary Abchurch 149
 St Mary Aldermary 148
 St Mary-le-Bow 50, 51, 148, 151
 St Nicholas Cole Abbey 148
 St Paul's Cathedral 12, 49, 51, 67, 147, 148, 152–5
 St Stephen Walbrook 51, 149, 150
 Temple Bar 142–3
 Theatre Royal Drury Lane 119
 tomb 154
 Wren, Christopher Jr 153
 Writers **43**
 Wyatt, Benjamin Dean 101, 119
 Wyndham, Charles 120
 Wyndham's Theatre **120**
 Wynne, David
Boy and Dolphin 199, 273
Y
 Ye Olde Cheshire Cheese **144**
 Yeats, W B 271
 Yevele, Henry 23, 81
 York, Prince Andrew, Duke of 99
 Young British Artists (YBAs) 43, 88–9, 201
The Young Dancer (Piazotta) 114
Young Woman Standing at a Virginal (Vermeer) 111
 Youth culture **35**
 Youth hostels 287
Z
 Zoos
 London Zoo 55, **231**, 270–71
 see also Aquarium
 Zurbarán, Francisco 111

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